



# --- 2000

# *Kentucky Sport Fishing & Boating Guide*

---



**THIS GUIDE IS CURRENT  
MARCH 1, 2000 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2001**

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources  
C. Tom Bennett, Commissioner 1-800-858-1549

## **BOATER'S NOTICE:**

**You must be 12 years or older to operate a motorboat greater than 10 horsepower on Kentucky's public waters. If you are 12 - 17 years old you must carry a safe boating certification card or be accompanied by a person 18 years or older or a person in possession of a safe boating certification card to operate a boat 10 horsepower or greater. To find a boating certification class near you, call 1-800-858-1549. Testing sites and other boating information are listed on the Internet at [www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm](http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm)**

## FISHING

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	3
<b>NEW LAWS</b>	3
<b>LICENSES AND SEASONS</b>	4
Fishing Season	4
License and Fees	4
License Requirements and Exemptions	4
Senior/Disabled License	4
Trout Permit	5
Pay Lakes	5
Free Fishing Days	5
<b>DEFINITIONS</b>	5
Measuring Fish	5
Black Bass Identification	6
<b>SPORT FISH SPECIES</b>	6
Statewide Size and Creel Limits	6
<b>SPECIAL LIMITS</b>	
<b>ON SPECIFIC WATERS</b>	6
Bordering Waters	13
<b>OTHER SPECIES</b>	14
Bullfrogs	14
Turtles	14
Grass Carp	14
Zebra Mussels	14
Live Bait	14
<b>FISHING METHODS</b>	15
Trotlines, Jugging and Set Lines	15
Gigging and Snagging	15
Tickling and Noodling	17
Bow Fishing	17
Spear Fishing	17
<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	17
Frequently Asked Questions	17
Catch and Release	18
Consumption Advisories	18
Trophy Fish	19
Record Fish	21
<b>LAKES OF KENTUCKY</b>	23

### ASK FIRST

All persons must obtain permission to enter private lands for any reason, including fishing. When stream fishing be aware that the stream bed may be privately owned and persons must have permission from the landowner to enter that land. Any person fishing on either public or private property shall not commit acts of depredation or cause damage to any property in any manner.

## BOATING

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	25
<b>REGISTRATION</b>	25
Display of Number and Decals	25
Registration and Fees	25
Transfers	25
<b>OPERATION</b>	25
Age Restrictions	25
Boat, Motor and Lake Restrictions	26
Water Skiing	27
Airborne Devices	27
Personal Watercraft	27
Small Craft Precautions	28
Reckless Operation	28
Waterway Markers	28
Idle Speed	29
Locks and Dams	29
Restricted Zones	29
Buoys	29
Operating Under the Influence	30
Public Intoxication	30
Prohibited Riding	30
<b>RULES OF THE ROAD</b>	31
Overtaking	31
Crossing	31
Meeting	31
<b>REQUIRED EQUIPMENT</b>	32
Personal Flotation Devices	32
Fire Extinguishers	33
Ventilation	33
Navigation Lights	34
Signaling Devices	35
Muffling Devices	35
Marine Sanitation Devices	35
<b>ACCIDENTS</b>	35
Reporting Requirements	35
Rendering Aid	36
First Aid	36
Hypothermia	36
Accident Report Form	37
<b>OTHER SITUATIONS</b>	36
Scuba Diving	36
Hypothermia	36
Swimming	39
Inflatables	39
Fatigue	39
Zebra Mussels	39
Littering	39

## INTRODUCTION

This guide is an accurate summary of the laws regarding fishing and boating. It is not a reprint of any Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) or Kentucky Administrative Regulation (KAR) in its entirety and should not be used as such. If you have questions regarding the information in this publication, contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, **1-800-858-1549**, weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern. Numbers listed under section headings in this guide refer to the pertinent regulations and statutes. Complete KAR and KRS can be referenced at <http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/home.htm>.

## NEW for 2000:

New regulations are listed in red and will be enforced beginning March 1, 2000.

## FISHING

**BROWN TROUT STATEWIDE SIZE LIMIT:** There is now a statewide size minimum limit of 12 inches on brown trout (page 6.)

**BEAVER LAKE:** Largemouth bass minimum size limit changes to 15 inches (page 7.)

**BROOK TROUT CATCH AND RELEASE STREAMS:** Brook trout caught in Dog Fork (Wolfe County,) Parched Corn Creek (Wolfe County,) Poor Fork (Letcher County,) or Shillalah Creek (Bell County,) must be RELEASED IMMEDIATELY (pages 7, 12, 13.)

**WOLF CREEK FISH HATCHERY:** Rainbow trout daily limit changes to five fish daily (page 13.)

**GOT A QUESTION? ---- NEED  
INFORMATION?**

**Call 1-800-858-1549**

**[www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm](http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm)**

**Find out Where to Fish:  
KENTUCKY'S BOATING & FISHING  
ACCESS SITES ,available  
from the Kentucky Department of  
Fish and Wildlife Resources.**





# FISHING

## LICENSES AND SEASONS

**FISHING SEASON IS OPEN YEAR-ROUND IN KENTUCKY**, except on water-fowl refuges and as otherwise noted in this guide. Some waters have more restrictive limits than the statewide size and creel limits. Always **ASK FIRST** before entering privately owned land.

### SPORT FISHING LICENSES AND FEES

(301 KAR 3:022; KRS 150.225)

Type of License	Resident	Nonresident
Annual Fishing	12.50	30.00
Combination hunting and fishing	20.00	NA
Senior/disabled hunting and fishing	5.00	NA
Joint husband/wife fishing	22.50	NA
3-day fishing	NA	12.50
15-day fishing	NA	20.00
Trout permit	5.00	5.00

**Licenses are valid March 1 through last day of February.**

License agents are located across the state at county clerks' offices and at stores where hunting and fishing equipment is sold. Licenses can now be purchased through the Internet at the Fish and Wildlife Marketplace [www.ky-direct.com/kdfwr](http://www.ky-direct.com/kdfwr). For a list of license agents near you write to #1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601, phone 1-800-858-1549.

## LICENSE REQUIREMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS

(KRS 150.010, 150.170)

A **resident** is anyone who has established permanent and legal residence in Kentucky and resided here at least 30 days immediately prior to applying for a license. Full-time students enrolled in an educational institution for at least a six-month term and service personnel on permanent assignment in Kentucky are also classified as residents. All others are **nonresidents** and are required, unless under age 16, to purchase nonresident licenses.

**All persons must fill out and carry the proper license and permit to fish any Kentucky**

**waters except** (For permit requirements see Trout Permit):

1. The resident owner of farmlands, his spouse and dependent children may fish on their land without a license. Tenants, their spouses and dependent children may fish without a license on farmlands where they live and work.
2. Resident servicemen on furlough of more than three days may fish statewide without a license, but must carry proper identification and papers showing furlough status.
3. Residents and nonresidents under the age of 16.

## SENIOR/DISABLED LICENSE

Discount senior/disabled hunting and fishing licenses are required of **Kentucky residents** who are: 65 and older, American veterans 50% disabled as a result of a

service-connected disability or declared permanently and totally disabled by the Federal Social Security Administration, a workers' claim board or the United States Railroad Retirement Board. Disabled persons must obtain an authorization card from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources before buying the discounted license. Call 1-800-858-1549. Persons 65 and older must show proof of age and residency to buy a senior/disabled license.

A senior/disabled license entitles the holder to hunt and fish for all species including trout, deer, turkey, migratory game birds and waterfowl without additional state permits (federal waterfowl stamp required.) The holder of this license must carry proof of residency and age (driver's license) or disability.

## TROUT PERMIT

(301 KAR 1:100)

A trout permit (\$5.00) is required for anglers who wish to keep trout. Those not required to purchase a trout permit are: 1) residents with a senior or disabled Kentucky combination hunting/fishing license; 2) resident owner of farmlands, their spouses and dependent children when fishing on their own land; 3)

tenants, their spouses and dependent children fishing on the farmlands where they live and work; and 4) persons under 16. For a complete list of trout waters, request the “Kentucky Trout Waters” pamphlet available from the KDFWR.

## **PAY LAKES** (KRS 150.660)

A person fishing in a pay lake licensed by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources needs either a Kentucky fishing license or a free permit issued by the operator. If the lake is not licensed by the operator, anglers need a valid Kentucky fishing license.

## **FREE FISHING DAYS** (301 KAR 1:210)

Every year Kentucky offers free fishing days the **first weekend in June (June 3-4, 2000)**. On free fishing days no license is required of residents or nonresidents to fish any Kentucky waters. All other fishing regulations remain in effect. Free fishing days are offered to promote fishing and National Fishing Week.

## **DEFINITIONS** (301 KAR 1:201, KRS 150.010)

Fishing-related definitions not listed here are included in appropriate sections of this guide.

**Angling** means taking or attempting to take fish by hook and line in hand, rod in hand, jugging, set line or sport fishing trotline.

**Artificial baits** are lures or flies made of wood, metal, plastic, feathers, preserved pork rind or similar inert materials and having no organic baits attached. (Inert materials do not contain properties that could cause a chemical or biological action.)

**Black bass** includes largemouth, smallmouth, Kentucky (spotted) and Coosa bass.

**Daylight hours** begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset.

**Daily limit** is the maximum number of a particular species or group of species a person may legally keep in a day or have in possession while fishing.

**Fishing** is taking or attempting to take fish in any manner, whether or not fish are in possession.

**Kentucky (spotted) bass** is a black bass with a patch of teeth on its tongue.

**Lake** means impounded waters, from the dam

upstream to the first riffle on the main stem river and tributary streams.

**Length** means the distance from the front tip of a fish's lower jaw to the tip of its tail with the fish laid flat on a rule with its tail lobes squeezed together.

**Organic baits** are insects, minnows, fish eggs, worms, corn, cheese, cut bait or similar substances used as a lure.

**Possession limit** is the maximum number of fish a person may hold in the field after two or more days of fishing.

A **regulation** is a written document adopted and approved by the KDFWR Commission and approved by legislative committees.

**Release** means return of the fish, in the best possible condition, immediately after removing the hook, to the water from which it was taken in a place where the fish's immediate escape shall not be prevented.

**Resident** is anyone who has established permanent and legal residence in Kentucky and residing here at least 30 days.

**Size limit** is the legal length a fish must be if it is in possession. (Fish length is measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the tip of the tail with fish laid flat on rule and tail lobes squeezed together.)

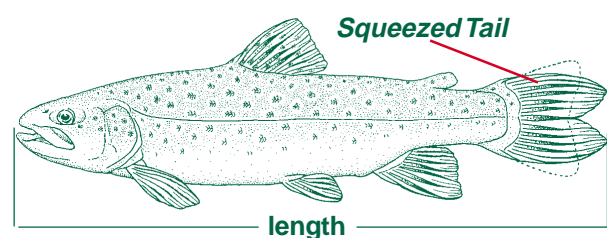
**Slot limit** means fish within a specified minimum and maximum size range must be released.

**Single hook** is a hook with only one point.

**Tenant** is any resident sharecropper or lessee who lives and works on farmland owned by his/her landlord.

## **MEASURING FISH** (301 KAR 1:201)

Measure all fish from the tip of the lower jaw to the tip of the tail with fish laid flat on rule with tail lobes squeezed together. Undersized fish must be returned immediately to the waters from which they were taken in the best possible physical condition.



## BLACK BASS IDENTIFICATION

(301 KAR 1:201)

A Kentucky (spotted) bass is legally defined as any black bass, except the smallmouth, with a patch of teeth on its tongue. A smallmouth bass does not have a horizontal stripe. It is generally a brownish color with vertical markings.

## STATEWIDE SIZE AND CREEL LIMITS

(301 KAR 1:060, 1:201; KRS 150.010)

Statewide size and creel limits apply to all Kentucky waters, public and private, except some waters have different limits (see, “**Special Fishing Regulations.**”)

SPORT FISH SPECIES	DAILY Limit	POSSESSION Limit	MINIMUM SIZE Limit (inches)
BLACK BASS	6*	12*	
Largemouth bass	Daily and possession limits apply to any combination of these black bass species.		12"
Smallmouth bass			12"
Kentucky (spotted) bass			none
Coosa bass			12"
Rock bass	15	30	none
Walleye & hybrids	10*	20*	15"
Sauger	10	20	none
Muskellunge	2	2	30"
Chain pickerel	5	10	none
Northern pike	none	none	none
White bass & yellow bass	30*	60*	none
Striped bass & hybrids	5*	5*	15"
Crappie	30*	60*	none
Rainbow trout	Rainbow & brown trout combined daily and possession limit 8, only 3 may be brown trout.		none
<b>Brown trout</b>			<b>12"</b>
Brook trout	2	2	10"

**\* Singly or combined; a total of these species.**

Fish not included in this list are considered rough fish. There are no size or creel limits for rough fish, unless special regulations apply.



## SPECIAL FISHING REGULATIONS

(301 KAR 1:080, 1:180, 1:201, 4:100, 4:200E; KRS 150.010, 150.025)

### Special Regulation Waters Listed Alphabetically

The public waters listed below have different size and/or creel limits than statewide regulations allow. Statewide size and creel limits apply unless otherwise mentioned below. Special boating regulations are listed in the **Boating** section of this guide.

Some privately owned waters may have special size and creel limits as posted by signs. Always **ASK FIRST** before entering privately owned land.

**Bark Camp Creek, Whitley County:** All trout caught from October 1 through March 31 must be released immediately and only artificial baits shall be used.

**Barkley Lake, Kentucky Lake** (and their connecting canal):

CRAPPIE -- 10-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

SAUGER -- 14-inch size limit.

**Barren River Lake:** The boundaries of Barren River Lake are from the dam upstream to the Highway 100 bridge, Long Creek to the Highway 100 bridge, Beaver Creek to the Highway 1297 bridge, Skaggs Creek to the Matthews Mill Road bridge and Peter Creek to the Peter Creek Road bridge.

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit except 1 fish in the daily limit or 2 in the possession limit may be less than 15 inches long.

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their HYBRIDS -- daily limit 20, possession limit 40, singly or combined. No more than 5 in the daily limit or 10 in the possession limit may be 15 inches or longer.

**Beaver Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit**

**Bert Combs Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Boltz Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Briggs Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Buckhorn Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Cane Creek, Laurel County:** All trout caught from October 1 through March 31 shall be released immediately and only artificial baits shall be used.

**Carpenter Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Carr Creek Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Carter Caves State Park Lake** (also called Smokey Valley Lake): Fishing during daylight hours only.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit, 1 fish daily or in possession.

Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.







**Cave Run Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 13-16 inch slot limit. All largemouth and smallmouth bass between 13 and 16 inches in length must be released immediately.

**Corinth Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Cumberland Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 10-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

STRIPED BASS -- 24-inch size limit, 2 fish daily limit.

**Cumberland River** below Lake Cumberland from Wolf Creek Dam to the Tennessee state line:

BROWN TROUT -- 20 inch size limit, 1 fish daily limit.

**Cumberland River** from Barkley Lake Dam downstream to confluence with Ohio River:

SAUGER -- 14-inch size limit.

STRIPED BASS -- 3 fish daily or in possession.

**Cumberland Gap National Historical Park:** (301 KAR 1:031, 1:035)

Special fishing regulations are in effect on Cumberland Gap National Historical Park. For complete fishing information on this area contact: Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, PO Box 1848, Middlesboro, KY 40965, phone (606) 248-2817.

**Cyprus Amax & Robinson Forest WMAs:** Fishing is open on impounded waters of the area during daylight hours year-round, except on **Starfire Lake** where the season is June 1 - December 31. In addition to a fishing license, a \$10 user permit is required for persons age 16 and over while on the WMAs. Permits are available where fishing licenses are sold.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 4 fish daily limit, 8 fish possession limit.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit, 3 fish daily limit, 6 fish possession limit.

BLUEGILL and all other SUNFISH -- no size limit, 15 fish daily limit, 30 fish possession limit.

**Dale Hollow Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 10-inch size limit.

BLACK BASS CREEL -- includes largemouth, smallmouth and KENTUCKY (SPOTTED) BASS -- 5 fish daily limit on black bass singly or combined, only two of which may be smallmouth bass.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 18-inch size limit.

MUSKIE -- 1 fish daily.

SAUGER -- 14-inch size limit, 10 fish daily limit.

RAINBOW and LAKE TROUT -- **April 1-Oct. 31:** no size limit,



7 fish daily limit (only 2 may be lake trout). **Nov.1-March 31:**  
22-inch size limit, 2 fish daily limit, singly or combined.  
WALLEYE -- 16-inch size limit, **5 fish daily limit.**

**Dewey Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.  
WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 15-inch size limit, 5 fish daily limit or in possession,  
singly or combined.

**Dix River above Herrington Lake Dam** (upstream from Herrington  
Lake Dam, including all tributaries above dam):

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 20 fish daily limit, possession 40, singly or combined.  
No more than 5 of a daily limit or 10 of the possession limit may  
be 15 inches or longer.

**Dix River** from Herrington Lake Dam downstream for two miles:  
Fishing with artificial lures or flies only.

BROWN TROUT-- 15-inch size limit.

**Dog Fork, Wolfe County** -- Only artificial bait with a single hook shall  
be used. **BROOK TROUT shall be released.**

**East Fork Indian Creek, Menifee County:** All trout caught from Octo-  
ber 1 through March 31 shall be released immediately and only artificial  
bait shall be used.

**Elkhorn Creek**, Franklin Co., from confluence of North and South  
forks downstream to Kentucky River:

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 12-16 inch slot  
limit. Largemouth and smallmouth bass between 12 and 16 inches  
long must be released immediately. Daily limit of 6 may include no  
more than 2 fish longer than 16 inches.

**Elmer Davis Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.  
LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 12-15 inch slot limit. All black bass  
between 12 and 15 inches in length must be released immediately.

**Fagan Branch Lake** (also called Lebanon City Lake):

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.  
CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit, 15 fish daily limit.  
BLUEGILL and REDEAR SUNFISH -- 30 fish daily limit singly or combined.  
CHANNEL CATFISH -- 5 fish daily limit.

**Fishtrap Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.  
WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 15-inch size limit; 5 fish daily limit or in possession, singly or combined.





**Game Farm Lakes (Franklin County):**

UPPER GAME FARM LAKE: Fishing during daylight hours only.  
Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 4 fish daily limit, 8 fish possession limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit,  
3 fish daily limit, 6 fish possession limit.

LOWER GAME FARM LAKE: Fishing during daylight hours only.  
Only children 12 years of age and younger may fish, 3 fish daily limit  
regardless of species.

**Grayson Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 15-inch size limit, 5 fish daily and possession limit  
singly or combined.

**Greenbo Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Green River Lake:**

CRAPPIE - 9-inch size limit.

**Guist Creek Lake:**

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 15-inch size limit; 5 fish daily limit or in possession,  
singly or combined.

**Hawk Creek, Laurel County:** All trout caught from October 1 through  
March 31 shall be released immediately and only artificial bait shall be used.

**Herrington Lake & Dix River** (upstream from Herrington Lake Dam,  
including all tributaries above dam):

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their  
HYBRIDS -- 20 fish daily limit, possession 40, singly or combined.  
No more than 5 of a daily limit or 10 of the possession limit may  
be 15 inches or longer.

**Kentucky & Barkley lakes** (and their connecting canal):

CRAPPIE -- 10-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.  
SAUGER -- 14-inch size limit.

**Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area:**

**(301 KAR 1:031, 1:035)**

Special fishing regulations are in effect for ponds and small lakes within  
Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. For complete fishing  
information on this area, anglers should contact: Land Between the Lakes  
National Recreation Area, Golden Pond, KY 42231, phone (270) 924-2000.

**Lake Chumley:** Fishing during daylight hours only.

**Lake Malone:**

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 12-15 inch slot limit. Largemouth bass between 12 and 15 inches in length must be released immediately.

**Laurel Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Leary Lake:** Fishing during daylight hours only.

BLUEGILL -- 15 fish daily, 30 fish possession limit.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 4 fish daily, 8 possession limit.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit, 3 fish daily, 6 fish possession limit.

**Lebanon City Lake:** (also called Fagan Branch Lake.)

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit, 15 fish daily limit.

BLUEGILL and REDEAR SUNFISH -- 30 fish daily limit, singly or combined.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 5 fish daily limit.

**Lincoln Homestead State Park Lake:** Fishing during daylight hours only. Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 4 fish daily, 8 fish possession limit.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit; 3 fish daily limit.

**Marion County Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Mauzy Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- no size limit.

**McNeely Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.**Mill Creek Lake,** Powell and Wolfe counties: Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.**Nolin River Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15 inch size limit, except 1 fish in the daily limit or 2 in the possession limit may be less than 15 inches long.

**Ohio River:**

WALLEYE, SAUGER and their HYBRIDS -- no size limit, 10 fish daily limit, singly or combined.

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their HYBRIDS -- 30 fish daily limit, only 4 fish in daily limit may be 15 inches or longer.





**Paintsville Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Parched Corn Creek, Wolfe County:** Only artificial bait with single hook shall be used. **BROOK TROUT shall be released.**

**Peabody WMA's Goose, Island & South lakes:**

Fishing open March 16 through October 14, during daylight hours only. In addition to a fishing license, a \$10 user permit is required of persons age 16 and over while on Peabody WMA. Permits can be purchased where fishing licenses are sold.

BLUEGILL -- 15 fish daily and possession limit.

CHANNEL CATFISH -- 15-inch size limit, 4 fish daily, 8 fish possession limit.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit, 3 fish daily, 6 fish possession limit.

REDBREAST SUNFISH -- no size limit, 15 fish daily and possession limit.

WALLEYE & HYBRIDS -- 15-inch size limit, 1 fish daily and possession limit.

FROGS -- may not be taken by any method on Goose, Island and South lakes.

**Poor Fork and its tributaries, Letcher County:** Downstream to the first crossing of Highway 392, only artificial bait with single hook shall be used. **BROOK TROUT shall be released.**

**Reba Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Robinson Forest WMA:** See Cyprus Amax & Robinson Forest WMAs.

**Rock Creek, McCreary County:** From Bell Farm Bridge upstream to Tennessee state line, all trout caught from October 1 through March 31 shall be released immediately and only artificial bait with single hook shall be used.

**Rough River Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit except 1 fish in the daily limit 2 in the possession limit may be less than 15 inches long.

HYBRID STRIPED BASS -- **For size and creel purposes,** hybrid striped bass are distinguished from white bass as follows: the rear patch of teeth on the tongue of the hybrid striped bass is separated; the rear patch of teeth on the white bass is not separated and appears rounded or U-shaped.

**Shanty Hollow Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Shillalah Creek, Bell County:** Outside the Cumberland Gap National Park as posted,



only artificial bait with single hook shall be used. **BROOK TROUT** shall be released.

**Spurlington Lake:** Possession or use of shad for bait is prohibited.

**Sympson Lake,** Nelson County:

LARGEMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

**Taylorsville Lake:**

CRAPPIE -- 9-inch size limit, 15 fish daily limit, possession limit 30.

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.

WHITE BASS, YELLOW BASS, STRIPED BASS and their HYBRIDS  
-- 15-inch size limit, 5 fish daily and possession limit, singly or combined.

**(301 KAR 2:222)**

The portion of Taylorsville Lake uplake from the Van Buren boat ramp as marked by signs, is closed to the public from November 1 through the last day of February as a waterfowl refuge.

**Tennessee River** from Kentucky Lake Dam downstream to confluence with Ohio River:

SAUGER -- 14-inch size limit.

STRIPED BASS -- 3 fish daily limit or in possession.

**Wolf Creek Fish Hatchery** from the galvanized culvert/tile upstream to the hatchery discharge:

**RAINBOW TROUT** -- 5 fish daily limit.

**Yatesville Lake:**

LARGEMOUTH and SMALLMOUTH BASS -- 15-inch size limit.



## BORDERING WATERS

### Ohio River Fishing

**(KRS 150.170)**

Under the terms of an interim agreement, Kentucky and Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio and Kentucky and Illinois will honor the other state's sport licenses along their common borders on the main stem of the Ohio River, excluding tributaries and embayments. (See Ohio River listing in "Special Restrictions.")

### Mississippi River Fishing

**(KRS 150.170)**

Anglers licensed in Kentucky may fish Missouri portions of the Mississippi River without buying a Missouri fishing license. This reciprocal agreement applies only to sport

fishermen fishing the main stem of the river, not to tributaries, bayous or backwaters of the Mississippi River in Missouri. The center of the Mississippi River channel is the state line. Anglers fishing across these state lines must abide by both states' regulations and when conflict occurs, observe the more restrictive regulation.

### Dale Hollow Lake

Anglers may use either a Tennessee or a Kentucky sport fishing license while fishing in the Wolf River arm of Dale Hollow Lake. This includes the Illwill Creek embayment beginning at a line crossing the Wolf River at its mouth where it joins the Obey River and the main part of the lake.

Anglers must obey the regulations of the state in which they are licensed. Kentucky residents must have a Kentucky license.

### **Big South Fork of the Cumberland River**

Anglers may use either a Tennessee or a Kentucky sport fishing license while fishing that portion of the Big South Fork from the Leatherwood Ford bridge (Highway 297) in Tennessee to the Highway 92 bridge at Yamacraw, Kentucky.

Anglers must obey the regulations of the state in which they are licensed. Kentucky residents must have a Kentucky license.

### **Other Bordering Waters**

On all other bordering waters, boundaries are set by state lines. Obey the laws of the state in which you are fishing.

## **OTHER SPECIES**

### **BULLFROGS** (301 KAR 1:082)

The taking season for bullfrogs opens at noon on the third Friday in May (May 19, 2000) and runs through Oct. 31. If a gun or bow and arrow is used, a hunting license is required. If frogs are taken by pole and line, a fishing license is required. If frogs are taken by gig or by hand, then either a hunting or fishing license is valid. The daily noon-to-noon creel limit for bullfrogs is 15. The possession limit is 30.

### **TURTLES**

Anglers may take snapping turtles (except alligator snapping turtles) and softshell turtles year round by the same methods legal for taking rough fish species. A hunting license is required when taking turtles by gun or by bow and arrow. Otherwise a fishing license is required.

Turtle traps may be one of two kinds: either a barrel or drum with a tilting trigger board or a floating log raft with an enclosed twine or wire mesh bag. Turtle traps must be inspected daily. All turtles must be removed daily except one decoy turtle may remain. Any other species caught in a turtle trap must be released unharmed.

### **GRASS CARP HARVEST PROHIBITED**

(301 KAR 1:201)

Harvesting grass carp is prohibited in any lake owned by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. Anglers who catch a grass carp from one of these lakes must immediately return the fish to the water where it was caught. Grass carp are used to control aquatic vegetation. Signs are posted at applicable lakes.

### **ZEBRA MUSSELS PROHIBITED**

(301 KAR 1:122)

It is illegal to import or possess zebra mussels in Kentucky. Zebra mussels have infested the Great Lakes area and are present in the Kentucky and Ohio Rivers and Kentucky, Barkley, Taylorsville and Green River lakes.

They are tiny, usually less than one inch across, with an elongated striped shell ranging in color from brown to brown and yellow striped to yellow. Zebra mussels attach themselves to any solid submerged surface, reproduce rapidly and tend to cluster. They can live 8-10 days out of water and can be transported from one body of water to another while attached to a boat. Check for the presence of zebra mussels before putting a boat or other equipment into any Kentucky waters (see page 39.)

### **LIVE BAIT FOR PERSONAL USE**

(301 KAR 1:130, 1:122, 1:130)

Holders of sport fishing licenses may take live bait from public waters and may possess up to 500 minnows, 500 crayfish, 100 salamanders, 100 frogs (other than bullfrogs), 100 tadpoles, 100 native lampreys, 500 other aquatic invertebrate organisms other than mussels, 500 shad (except on lakes where shad possession/use is prohibited), 500 herring and any number of Asiatic clams. A commercial license is required to take live bait from public waters open to commercial fishing for the purpose of selling.

Live bait may be taken with the following gear:  
**Dip Nets:** Maximum size of 3 feet in diameter is legal in the Ohio, Tennessee and Mississippi rivers, Cumberland River below Barkley Dam, Kentucky River below Lock No. 14, and all lakes having 1,000 or more surface acres.

**Minnow Traps:** Maximum size legal statewide: 3 feet long, 18 inches in diameter, 1-inch openings for catching.

**Seines:** Maximum legal size statewide: 10 feet long, 4 feet deep, 1/4-inch mesh. Maximum size legal in the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and Kentucky and Barkley lakes: 30 feet long, 6 feet deep and 1/4-inch bar mesh.

**Sport Cast Nets:** Legal only in the Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi rivers, Cumberland River below Barkley Dam, Kentucky River below Lock No. 14, and all lakes having 1,000 or more surface acres. Maximum size of 9 feet in diameter and 3/8-inch mesh. In Lake Cumberland only, the legal maximum size is 16 feet in diameter, 3/4-inch bar mesh.

All sport fish incidentally taken while capturing live bait with seines, dip nets or cast nets must be released immediately and unharmed into the water.

No live fish, live minnow or live bait organisms that are **not native or established** in Kentucky waters shall be bought, sold, possessed, imported, or in any way used or released into waters of this Commonwealth.

Regardless of size or how obtained, it is illegal to use any sport fish for bait. (Sport fish species listed on page 6.) **Minnows** are defined as all fish, except sport fish species, less than 6 inches long. **Bluegill** are not sport fish species and may be taken for bait as described above.

## FISHING METHODS

### SPORT FISHING TROTlines, JUGGING and SET LINES

(301 KAR 1:056; KRS 150.010)

A **sport fishing trotline** is a line with no more than 50 single or multi-barbed baited hooks which must be at least 18 inches apart. A sport fishing trotline must be set at least three feet below the water's surface. **Jugging** is fishing with a single baited line attached to any floating object. A **jug line** may have no more than one

single or multi barbed hook. A **set line** is a line with one single or multi barbed hook. A set line may be attached to a tree limb, tree trunk, bank pole or other stationary object on the bank of a stream or impoundment.

One person may use no more than two sport fishing trotlines, 50 jug lines or 50 set lines at any one time. Each sport fishing trotline, jug line or set line must be: 1) permanently labeled with the name and address of the user; 2) baited, checked and all fish removed at least once every 24 hours; 3) removed from water, bank or tree when fishing ceases.

**PROHIBITED AREAS:** Sport fishing trotlines, jug lines or set lines may not be used within 200 yards below any dam. Sport fishing **trotlines** are not allowed in Department owned/managed lakes having less than 500 surface acres, except those located on Ballard and Peal WMAs. No sport fishing trotlines are allowed within 700 yards below Kentucky Dam, the area between Barkley Dam and Highway 62 bridge, or below the following Ohio River dams from the face of the dam to the end of the outer lock wall: Smithland, Newburgh, Cannelton, Markland, Meldahl and Greenup; McAlpine downstream to the K&I railroad bridge; Uniontown to the end of the outer lock wall and that portion of the split channel around the southern part of Wabash Island from the fixed weir dam to the first dike.

**Jug lines** are not allowed in Department owned/managed lakes having less than 500 surface acres except Bullock Pen, Carter Caves, Elmer Davis, Greenbo and Kincaid lakes and those lakes located on Ballard, Peal and Swan Lake WMAs.

### GIGGING AND SNAGGING FISH

(301 KAR 1:020, 1:075, 1:082; KRS 150.010)

**Gigging** means spearing or impaling fish on any pronged or barbed instrument attached to the end of any rigid object. **Snagging** means taking fish or other aquatic animals by a rapid drawing motion (rather than enticement by bait) using a hand-held pole and attached line with a single or one multiple fish hook. Except,

**in Green River, Rolling Fork River and their tributaries**, up to five single or treble hooks may be used for snagging.

A person may gig or snag fish from the bank, but not from a platform or within 200 yards of a dam, except below Kentucky Dam. Giggling from boats may be conducted only on lakes with 500 or more surface acres of water and only during daylight hours. Otherwise, giggling/snagging is permitted day or night in all portions of lakes and streams open to these methods.

The season for giggling and/or snagging rough fish is from February 1 through May 10. It is illegal to possess a gig on a stream or lake or in a boat from November 1 through January 31. Except, persons may gig rough fish through the ice any time the surface is frozen thick enough to stand on, and gigger must gig while supported by the ice. Regardless of condition, all sport fish taken by this method must be immediately returned to the water except in the Tennessee River below Kentucky Dam.

**Snagging in the Tennessee River Below Kentucky Dam** is permitted anytime during the year from the banks only. The daily creel limit is 15 fish, and cannot exceed the daily creel limit set for any sport species, even if the daily limit for a sport species is more than 15. All fish snagged below Kentucky Dam must be kept except shad or herring, and if the legal limit of any sport fish species is reached before the combined limit of 15, snagging must stop immediately.

In the Tennessee River below Kentucky Dam, a snagging rod, including the handle, may not be longer than 7-1/2 feet and must be equipped with line, guides and reel. Only one hook may be attached to the line, either single or treble. Any person in the act of snagging may not possess more fish than the combined daily limit or the legal limit for black bass and sauger.

**Giggling and snagging is prohibited in the following:**

Bark Camp Creek -- Whitley County  
Barren River Tailwaters from the Barren River Lake Dam downstream to the Hwy 101 bridge -- Allen and Barren counties  
Beaver Creek -- McCreary County

Beaver Creek -- Wayne County  
Beaverdam Creek -- Edmonson County  
Big Double Creek -- Clay County  
Buffalo Creek, Right Fork -- Owsley County  
Canada Creek -- Wayne County  
Cane Creek -- Laurel County  
Caney Creek -- Elliott County  
Casey Creek -- Trigg County  
Clover Bottom Creek -- Jackson County  
Cumberland, below Wolf Creek Dam downstream to the Tennessee line including tributaries within 1/2 mile of its junction with the Cumberland River  
Cumberland River, below Barkley Dam downstream to the US 62 bridge  
Dogslaughter Creek -- Whitley County  
East Fork Little Sandy River -- Boyd County  
Elkhorn Creek -- Pike County  
Goose Creek -- Casey and Russell counties  
Hawk Creek -- Laurel County  
Hood Creek -- Johnson and Lawrence counties  
Indian Creek -- Jackson County  
Laurel Creek -- Elliott County  
Lick Creek -- McCreary County  
Lick Creek -- Simpson County  
Little Kentucky River, upstream from a point 200 yards below the low water dam at the Sulphur Road Bridge -- Trimble County  
Little South Fork -- McCreary and Wayne counties  
Little Whippoorwill Creek -- Logan County  
Lynn Camp Creek -- Hart County  
Middle Fork Kentucky River, from Buckhorn Lake Dam downstream to the Breathitt County line -- Perry County  
Middle Fork Red River -- Powell and Wolfe counties  
Peter Creek -- Barren and Monroe counties  
Raven Creek -- Harrison County  
Rock Creek -- McCreary County  
Rockcastle Creek, from the junction of Highway 3 and Highway 40 in Inez north for 5 miles to the Highway 3 Johnson Bottom Bridge -- Martin County  
Rough Creek -- Hardin County  
Rough River, below Rough River Lake Dam downstream to the Highway 54 bridge -- Breckinridge and Grayson counties  
Roundstone Creek -- Hart County  
Russell Fork, upstream from the junction of



US 460 and Highway 80 -- Pike County  
Sinking Creek -- Breckinridge County  
Skinframe Creek -- Lyon County  
Station Camp Creek, downstream from the  
confluence of War Fork Creek -- Estill County  
Sturgeon Creek, downstream from the  
confluence of Wild Dog Creek -- Lee County  
Sulphur Spring Creek -- Simpson County  
Swift Camp Creek -- Wolfe County  
Trammel Fork, upstream from the Highway  
1332 bridge at Butlersville -- Allen County  
War Fork -- Jackson County

## TICKLING AND NOODLING

(301 KAR 1:075; KRS 150.010)

The tickling and noodling (hand grabbing) season for rough fish is June 10 through August 31, during daylight hours only. **Tickling** and **noodling** means taking fish directly by hand, or with the aid of a handled hook. These methods are permitted in all waters. The daily creel limit is 15 rough fish, no more than 5 of which can be catfish.

## BOW FISHING

(301 KAR 1:090)

Rough fish may be taken year-round by bow and arrow with line attached, but only rough fish with scales and catfish may be taken during nighttime hours. Catfish have a daily limit of 5 (paddlefish are not catfish.) No bow and arrow may be used within 700 yards below Kentucky Dam or within 200 yards of any other dam in the state. Waters where gigging and snagging are not permitted (see "Gigging and Snagging" page 17) are also closed to bow fishing. Persons using a bow and arrow for fishing must have the appropriate fishing license and may take rough fish from bank or boat. There is no limit on other rough fish.

## SPEAR FISHING

(301 KAR 1:040)

Underwater spearing of rough fish with hand-held or mechanically propelled spear is permitted year-round, but only in lakes having 1,000 surface acres or more. All participants in this sport must be submerged while spear fishing.

Only rough fish may be taken and the appropriate fishing license is required. The daily limit is 15 fish.

## GENERAL INFORMATION AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(301 KAR 1:110, 1:115, 1:120, 1:122, 1:201; KRS 150.010, 150.092, 150.460, 150.640, KRS 235.290)

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Following are some bits of information not covered elsewhere in this guide:

**Fish may not be taken with of a firearm.**

**It is unlawful to use public waters for the private or commercial propagation of fish.**

**Fishing tournaments** involving 100 or more boats are regulated and scheduled by the Division of Law Enforcement, 1-800-858-1549.

**Unauthorized stockings of fish (including baitfish) in public waters are strictly prohibited.** This means **do not dump the contents of your bait bucket in the water** when you are finished fishing. Find another angler who will use the bait or properly discard it away from water.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**"How many fishing poles am I allowed to have while fishing?"** The answer is -- as many as you want. There is no limit on the number of fishing poles (or fishing rods) an angler may use at one time.

**"Can I clean my fish while on the water?"** The law says anglers shall not remove any part of the head or tail of any fish for which there is a size or creel limit until finished fishing and off the water.

**"If I have my pond stocked by the KDFWR, do I have to let the public fish it?"**  
No.

**"Can I keep sport fish in my aquarium?"**  
Yes, you can. Just be sure the fish are legally obtained. You can fish for them, abiding by legal size and creel limits, or purchase sport fish from a licensed fish propagator. Keep the receipt or other written proof showing the fish were legally acquired.

**What if I lose my fishing license?** You have two options. You can send \$3 to the fish

and wildlife department and wait two to three weeks for a replacement to be sent to you by mail. The other option is to buy a replacement license and write to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601 for a refund. You must send in a copy of the new license to receive a refund (minus the \$3 replacement fee.)

**“Can I tag fish that I catch and release them in public waters?”** Personal fish tagging equipment has become a novelty item recently available to anglers. The KDFWR strongly recommends that you do NOT tag fish in public waters. Improper tagging can be lethal.

**“If I am over 65 years old, do I have to buy a fishing license?”** Yes. Residents 65 and older showing proof of age are eligible for a \$5 senior hunting/fishing license. Licenses are valid March 1 through the last day of February.

## CATCH AND RELEASE

The KDFWR supports catch and release of fish not needed for the table. Releasing fish in a healthy state is an excellent conservation tool helping to maintain quality fishing opportunities.

When releasing a fish, keep the fish in the water as much as possible. Do not allow the fish to flop in the boat or on the ground; the use of a net will assist you in controlling the fish. Gently handle the fish with wet hands and do not squeeze the fish or touch the gill or eye areas. Trout are better immobilized if held upside down and black bass may be held by the lower jaw. Remove hooks quickly using needle-nosed pliers. Deeply hooked fish should be released by clipping the line close to the mouth -- don't attempt to remove the hook. Sliding the fish back and forth through the water a few times will help it to become reoriented, and sometimes aids in its recovery.

**Striped Bass** -- Adult striped bass are very susceptible to delayed mortality following their release, even though these fish may initially appear in good condition. This is particularly a problem when water temperatures exceed 70 degrees. It is best not to release legal sized striped bass during this time.

## FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

The Kentucky Departments for Environmental Protection, Health Services and Fish and Wildlife Resources jointly issue a fish consumption advisory to the public when fish are found contaminated. Trace contaminants such as polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and chlordane are found in some fish in Kentucky. An advisory cautions people about potential health problems that may result from eating fish caught from a particular area. An advisory does not ban eating fish.

Risks from eating contaminated fish can be reduced by the following:

- ...fillet the fish, remove the skin and trim all fat
- ...do not eat fish eggs
- ...broil, grill or bake the fillets instead of frying or microwaving
- ...do not eat or reuse juices or fats that cook out of the fish.

Fish consumption advisories are in effect for the following:

- 1) Drakes Creek:** All fish from dam on W. Fork at Franklin, Ky. downstream to confluence with Barren River. (PCB)
  - 2) Green River Lake:** Carp and channel catfish. (PCB)
  - 3) Little Bayou Creek:** All fish from length of creek located in McCracken County. (PCB)
  - 4) Mud River and Town Branch:** All fish from Hancock Lake Dam to Green River (PCB)
  - 5) Ohio River, bordering Kentucky:** A new method for reporting the fish consumption advisory for the Ohio River has been adopted. Consumption rates for specific fish have been developed based on a meal of 1/2 pound of fish (before cooking) eaten by a 150-pound individual. Following these guidelines and spacing your meals of those fish species will limit your health risks by reducing your total exposure.
- Upper Reach (Greenup L&D to Markland L&D):**
- |                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Paddlefish (and their eggs) | do not eat   |
| Carp                        | 6 meals/year |

Channel catfish over 21" - 6 meals/year,  
under 21" - 1 meal/month  
Smallmouth buffalo 1 meal/month  
White bass 1 meal/week  
White crappie unlimited

**Middle Reach (Markland L&D to Cannelton L&D):**

Paddlefish (and their eggs) do not eat  
Channel catfish over 21" - 6 meals/year,  
under 21" - 1 meal/month  
Carp over 20" - 1 meal/month,  
under 20" - 1 meal/week  
Hybrid striped bass 6 meals/year  
White bass, black bass,  
drum and sauger 1 meal/month

**Lower Reach (Cannelton L&D to Mouth of Ohio River):**

Channel Catfish over 21" - 6 meals/year,  
under 21" - 1 meal/month  
Carp 1 meal/month  
Blue catfish over 14" - 1 meal/month,  
under 14" - 1 meal/week  
Drum, hybrid striped  
bass and sauger 1 meal/month  
White and black bass 1 meal/week  
White crappie unlimited

**6) West Kentucky WMA lakes - Fire Hydrant, Horseshoe, New Pond, Box Factory and Gravel Pit No. 1: Largemouth bass.**  
(Mercury)

**Ponds in the Six-Pond area have been killed out because of mercury contamination.**

**Report all fish kills** as soon as possible by calling any state wildlife and boating officer, fisheries biologist or dial **1-800-25-ALERT**. Callers aren't required to give their names.

**GOT A QUESTION? ---- NEED INFORMATION?**

**Call 1-800-858-1549**  
**[www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm](http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm)**



**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Trophy Fish/Master Angler Award Application**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Angler \_\_\_\_\_

Last First Middle

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

KY Fishing License # \_\_\_\_\_

If exempt, SS# \_\_\_\_\_

Species of Fish \_\_\_\_\_

Date Caught \_\_\_\_\_

Waters Where Caught \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED FOR APPLICATION TO BE VALID.**

**Include a photo of fish (preferably a side view) and angler. Species should be clearly identifiable from photo.**

Length \_\_\_\_\_ Inches (nearest 1/4)

Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. \_\_\_\_\_ ozs.

Signature of Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Witness \_\_\_\_\_

(Application must be signed by  
both angler and witness)

"I hereby swear that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that the taking of the fish described above was in accordance with the official rules governing Kentucky's Angler Awards Program."

Signature of Angler \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### MASTER ANGLER SECTION:

If this is your third catch in a series of three different species for which you have not been awarded a Master Angler wooden plaque, please complete this section:

First species caught \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Wt. \_\_\_\_\_

Second species caught \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Wt. \_\_\_\_\_

Third species caught \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Inches \_\_\_\_\_ Wt. \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form and return to:

Trophy Fish/Master Angler Coordinator

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources

#1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

(One application per fish caught. For more applications,  
call 1-800-858-1549.)

### TROPHY FISH/MASTER ANGLER AWARD PROGRAM

Anglers who catch, by pole and line, any *one* fish exceeding the length requirements below may qualify for the Trophy Fish/Master Angler Awards Program. Anglers who catch *three* different species of trophy status are eligible for the Master Angler Award plaque. There is no time limit in which the three different species must be caught, but each catch must be documented and registered as a trophy fish with the KDFWR since the program began in 1987. Species counted toward a Master Angler Award may not be duplicated.

#### Eligible Species And Minimum Lengths In Inches

Blue Catfish	35
Bluegill	10
Bowfin	25
Brook Trout	11
Brown Trout	20
Bullhead Catfish	14
Carp	35
Chain Pickerel	24
Channel Catfish	28
Crappie	15
Flathead Catfish	35
Freshwater Drum	25
Gar	40
Hybrid Striped Bass	23
Kentucky (Spotted) Bass	16
Largemouth Bass	23
Muskellunge	40
Rainbow Trout	20
Redear Sunfish	10
Redbreast Sunfish	10
Rock Bass	10
Sauger	18
Smallmouth Bass	20
Striped Bass	36
Walleye	25
White Bass	16
Yellow Perch	10

Complete details are available by writing the Trophy Fish/Master Angler Program, Fisheries Division, #1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort, KY 40601, or call 1-800-858-1549.



# STATE RECORD FISH PROGRAM

To qualify for the state record fish program, fish must be caught by sportfishing methods only and be **verified by a state fisheries biologist**. Fish need to be weighed on a scale certified for legal trade.

Applications for the state record fish program are available from Kentucky State Record Fish Program, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601, 1-800-858-1549 or from your **District Fisheries Office**:

Western Fishery District  
Paul Rister/Michael Garthaus  
Murray, KY  
(270) 753-3886

Central Fisheries District  
Kerry Prather/Jeff Crosby  
Frankfort, KY  
1-800-858-1549

Southeastern Fishery District  
Doug Stephens/John Williams  
Williamsburg, KY  
(606) 549-1332

Northwestern Fishery District  
David E. Bell/Rob Rold  
Calhoun, KY  
(502) 273-3117

Northeastern Fishery District  
Lew Kornman/Al Surmount  
Morehead, KY  
(606) 784-6872

Minor Clark Fish Hatchery  
Mike Hearn/Rod Middleton  
Morehead, KY  
(606) 784-6872

Southwestern Fishery District  
Bonny D. Laflin/Eric Cummins  
Bowling Green, KY  
(270) 746-7127

Eastern Fishery District  
Dan Michaelson/Kevin Frey  
Prestonsburg, KY  
(606) 886-9575

Frankfort Fish Hatchery  
Mike Larimore/Steve Marple  
Frankfort, KY  
(502) 564-4957

## KENTUCKY STATE RECORD FISH

SPECIES	WEIGHT	CAUGHT BY	LOCATION	DATE
<b>ANCIENT FISH</b>				
Bowfin	15 lbs. 13 ozs.	Norman Moran Lexington, KY	Green River	05/31/99
Longnose Gar	40 lbs.	Kelsie Travis, Jr. Paducah, KY	Ohio River	08/08/56
Paddlefish (Spoonbill)	82 lbs.	Standley Shelton Lexington, KY	Parrish Lakes, Scott County	06/12/82
Sturgeon	36 lbs. 8 ozs.	Barney Frazier Corbin, KY	Lake Cumberland	10/03/54
<b>BASS, BLACK</b>				
Kentucky Bass (Spotted Bass)	7 lbs. 10 ozs.	A.E. Sellers Louisville, KY	Nelson County	06/13/70
Largemouth Bass	13 lbs. 10 ozs.	Dale Wilson London, KY	Wood Creek Lake	04/14/84
Smallmouth Bass	8 lbs. 7 ozs.	Coolie Williams London, KY	Laurel River Lake	05/16/98
<b>BASS, TEMPERATE</b>				
Striped Bass (Rockfish)	58 lbs. 4 ozs.	Roger Foster Somerset, KY	Beaver Creek, Lake Cumberland	12/11/85
Hybrid Striped Bass	20 lbs. 8 ozs.	Mark Wilson Louisville, KY	Barren River Tailwaters	04/27/91
White Bass	5 lbs.	Lorne Eli Dawson Springs, KY ---TIE---	Kentucky Lake	07/11/43
		B.B. Hardin Mt. Eden, KY	Herrington Lake	06/03/57

SPECIES	WEIGHT	CAUGHT BY	LOCATION	DATE
Yellow Bass	1 lb. 1 oz.	DeWayne West Hopkinsville, KY	Little River, <i>Lake Barkley</i>	03/10/91
<b>CARP/SUCKER</b>				
Bighead Carp	35 lbs.	Junior McGuire Spottsville, KY	Ohio River	06/05/97
Blue Sucker	4 lbs. 8 ozs.	Lanny Owens Lockport, KY	Kentucky River	06/20/95
Buffalo ( <i>Smallmouth</i> )	47 lbs. 12 ozs.	Don Richards Reynolds Station, KY	Rough River, <i>Long Lick Creek</i>	04/30/94
Common Carp	54 lbs. 14 ozs.	Ricky Vance Paris, KY	South Fork, <i>Licking River</i>	03/13/71
Golden Redhorse	3 lbs. 8 oz.	Larry Salchli Stanton, KY	North Fork, <i>Red River</i>	03/01/98
Grass Carp	33 lbs	Dale Eads Paris, KY	Farm Pond, <i>Fayette County</i>	05/28/98
River Redhorse	4 lbs. 13 ozs.	Larry Salchli Stanton, KY	Slate Creek, <i>Bath County</i>	03/16/98
White Sucker	1 lb. 10 ozs.	Larry Salchli Stanton, KY	Slate Creek, <i>Montgomery County</i>	03/19/98
<b>CATFISH</b>				
Blue Catfish	104 lbs.	Bruce Midkiff Owensboro, KY	Ohio River,	08/28/99
Bullhead Catfish	5 lbs. 3 ozs.	Harry Case Paris, KY	Guist Creek Lake	10/18/92
Channel Catfish	28 lbs. 5 ozs.	Hope Tinsley Ft. Worth, TX	Farm Pond, <i>Hickman County</i>	05/29/94
Flathead Catfish	97 lbs.	Esker Carroll	Green River	06/06/56
<b>DRUM</b>				
Freshwater Drum	38 lbs.	Larry Cardwell Morgantown, KY	Green River	06/05/80
<b>HERRING</b>				
Skipjack Herring	2 lbs. 4 ozs.	Jim Strader Anchorage, KY	Cumberland River	02/27/92
<b>MOONEYE</b>				
Goldeye	1.92 lbs.	Chris Hoskins Lexington, KY	Kentucky River	08/20/99
<b>PERCH</b>				
Sauger	7 lbs. 7 ozs.	Rastie Andrew Jamestown, KY	Lake Cumberland	04/28/83
Saugeye	6 lbs. 9 ozs.	Chuck Kouns South Shore, KY	Ohio River, <i>Greenup County</i>	01/19/98
Walleye	21 lbs. 8 ozs.	Abe Black Shaker Heights, OH	Lake Cumberland	10/01/58
Yellow Perch	15 ozs.	Frances Barker Lowell, IN	Paradise Resort, <i>Kentucky Lake</i>	05/19/98
<b>PIKE</b>				
Chain Pickerel	5 lbs. 6 ozs.	Tommy Thompson Bardwell, KY	Forked Lake, <i>Carlisle County</i>	07/08/83
Grass Pickerel	10 ozs.	Gerald Gallagher Louisville, KY	Wilson Creek, <i>Bullitt County</i>	07/17/89
Muskellunge	44 lbs. 6 ozs.	Scott Flatt Lexington, KY	Cave Run Lake	05/09/98
Northern Pike	9 lbs. 8 ozs.	Howard F. Renfro Madisonville, KY	Strip Mine Lake, <i>Muhlenberg Co.</i>	10/15/81
Tiger Muskie ( <i>Muskellunge Hybrid</i> )	13 lbs. 12 ozs.	James Mollet Auxier, KY	Dewey Lake	05/05/81

SPECIES	WEIGHT	CAUGHT BY	LOCATION	DATE
---------	--------	-----------	----------	------

SUNFISH

Bluegill	4 lbs. 3 ozs.	Phil Conyers Madisonville, KY	Strip Mine Lake, Hopkins County	08/05/80
Crappie (White or black)	4 lbs. 6 ozs.	Kevin Perry Mt. Sterling, KY	Farm Pond, Montgomery County	06/29/97
Green Sunfish	1 lb. 2 ozs.	John Meriwether Henderson, KY	Farm Pond, Ballard County	07/31/82
Longear Sunfish	13 ozs.	Anthony Lynch Salyersville, KY	Strip Mine Pond, Magoffin County	06/23/94
Redbreast Sunfish	14 ozs.	Tim King Stearns, KY	Marsh Creek McCreary County	09/01/97
Redear Sunfish (Shellcracker)	3 lbs. 1 oz.	Betty Truax Finchville, KY	Farm Pond, Shelby County	05/24/82
Rock Bass	1 lb. 10 ozs.	H.S. White Cadiz, KY	Casey Creek, Trigg County	05/26/75
Warmouth	1 lb. 4 ozs.	Marty Riehemann Ft. Thomas, KY	Farm Pond, Boone County	06/03/90

TROUT

Brook Trout	1 lb. 5 ozs.	R. James Augustus Louisville, KY	Martins Fork, Bell County	08/21/82
Brown Trout	18 lbs. 8 ozs.	Randy Gibson Bakerton, KY	Cumberland River, Lake Cumberland Tailwaters	06/11/88
Lake Trout	5 lbs. 5 ozs.	John McDonogh Jeffersontown, KY	Cumberland River, Lake Cumberland Tailwaters	04/04/83
Rainbow Trout	14 lbs. 6 ozs.	Jim Mattingly Somerset, KY	Cumberland River, Lake Cumberland Tailwaters	09/10/72

**Note:** No listing for a species means no record exists for that species. Line class records are not maintained by the KDFWR.

KENTUCKY LAKES

**G** - Good fish populations,  
but does not reflect the  
size of fish you may catch

**P** - Species is present in  
low numbers

<b>G</b> - <i>Good fish populations, but does not reflect the size of fish you may catch</i>	<b>Acres</b>	Largemouth bass	Smallmouth bass	Kentucky bass	Hybrid striped bass	White bass	Yellow bass	Striped bass	Crappie	Muskie	Rainbow trout	Channel catfish	Blue catfish	Flathead catfish	Bullhead	Sauger	Walleye	Yellow perch	Redear sunfish	Bluegill	Longear sunfish	Green sunfish	Warmouth	Rock bass	Carp	Freshwater drum
<b>P</b> - <i>Species is present in low numbers</i>																										
<b>Western Kentucky</b>																										
<b>Barkley Lake</b>	<b>57,920</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Carpenter Lake</b> <i>(Daviess Co.)</i>	<b>64</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>			<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>			
<b>Kentucky Lake</b>	<b>160,000</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>		<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Kingfisher Lake</b> <i>(Daviess Co.)</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>					<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>			
<b>Lake Beshear</b> <i>(Caldwell/Christian cos.)</i>	<b>760</b>	<b>G</b>					<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>				
<b>Lake Malone</b> <i>(Muhlenberg Co.)</i>	<b>826</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>			<b>P</b>				<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>			
<b>Lake Pennyrite</b> <i>(Christian Co.)</i>	<b>47</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>						
<b>Mauzy Lake</b> <i>(Union Co.)</i>	<b>85</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>		<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>				<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>			<b>P</b>			
<b>Central Kentucky</b>																										
<b>A.J. Jolly Lake</b> <i>(Campbell Co.)</i>	<b>204</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>				<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	
<b>Barren River Lake</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>		<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>				<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>G</b>	
<b>Beaver Lake</b> <i>(Anderson Co.)</i>	<b>158</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>			<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>		<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>			
<b>Boltz Lake</b> <i>(Grant Co.)</i>	<b>92</b>	<b>G</b>							<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>				<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	
<b>Bullock Pen Lake</b> <i>(Boone/Grant cos.)</i>	<b>134</b>	<b>G</b>				<b>P</b>			<b>G</b>			<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>				<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>P</b>		<b>P</b>	

# KENTUCKY LAKES (continued)

**G** - Good fish populations,  
but does not reflect the  
size of fish you may catch

**P** - Species is present in  
low numbers

	Acres	Largemouth bass	Smallmouth bass	Kentucky bass	Hybrid striped bass	White bass	Yellow bass	Striped bass	Crappie	Muskie	Rainbow trout	Channel catfish	Blue catfish	Flathead catfish	Bullhead	Sauger	Walleye	Yellow perch	Redear sunfish	Bluegill	Longear sunfish	Green sunfish	Warmouth	Rock bass	Carp	Freshwater drum
<b>Corinth Lake</b> ( <i>Grant Co.</i> )	96	G							G			G			P				G	G	G	P	P			
<b>Dale Hollow Lake</b>	27,000	G	G	G		G			G	P	G	G		G	P	P	G		G	G	P	P	P	P	G	G
<b>Elmer Davis Lake</b> ( <i>Owen Co.</i> )	149	G							G			G			P				G	G	G	P	P			
<b>Game Farm Lakes</b> ( <i>Franklin Co.</i> )	7.3	G					P		P			G	G	P						G	G	P	G			
<b>Green River Lake</b>	8,200	G	G	G	G	G			G	G		G		G	P		G			G	G	P	P		G	G
<b>Guist Creek</b> ( <i>Shelby Co.</i> )	310	G			G	P	G		G			G	P		G				P	G	G	P	P		G	
<b>Herrington Lk.</b> ( <i>Mercer/Garrard/Boyle</i> )	1,860	G	P	G	G	G			G			P		G						G						
<b>Kincaid Lake</b> ( <i>Pendleton Co.</i> )	175	G		P					G			G			G				P	G	G	P	P		G	
<b>Lake Cumberland</b>	50,250	G	G	G		P		G	G			G		G	P	P	G		P	G	G	P	P	P	G	G
<b>Lincoln Homestead SP Lake</b> ( <i>Washington Co.</i> )	9	G										G							G	G		P				
<b>McNeely Lake</b> ( <i>Jefferson Co.</i> )	51	G							G			G			P				G	G	G	P	P		G	
<b>Nolin River Lake</b>	5,795	G	P	G		G			G			G		G			G			G						
<b>Reformatory Lake</b> ( <i>Oldham Co.</i> )	54	G					G		G			G	P		G				P	G	G	P	P		P	
<b>Rough River Lake</b>	5,000	G		G	G	P			G			G		G						G	G	P	P			
<b>Sympson Lake</b> ( <i>Nelson Co.</i> )	184	G							G			G			P					G	G	P	P		P	
<b>Washburn (renovating)</b> ( <i>Ohio Co.</i> )	26																									
<b>Taylorsville Lake</b>	3,050	G	P	P	G	G			G			G		P	G					G	P	P	P	P	G	P
<b>Williamstown Lake</b> ( <i>Grant Co.</i> )	300	G			G	P			G			G			P				P	G		P	P		P	
<b>Eastern Kentucky</b>																										
<b>Bert T. Combs Lake</b> ( <i>Clay Co.</i> )	36	G									G	G								G	P	P				
<b>Beulah Lake</b> ( <i>Jackson Co.</i> )	87	G	P						G		G	G							P	G	P	G			P	
<b>Briggs Lake</b> ( <i>Logan Co.</i> )	18	G							P			G							G	G						
<b>Buckhorn Lake</b> ( <i>Perry/Leslie cos.</i> )	1,250	G		P		P			G	G		G		P						G	P		P		P	P
<b>Cannon Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Bell Co.</i> )	243	G	G	G					G		G	G			P					G	P		P	P		
<b>Carr Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Knott Co.</i> )	710	G	P	G		P			G			G			P		G			G			P	P	P	
<b>Cave Run Lake</b>	8,270	G	G	G		G			G	G		G		P	P				P	G	G	P	P	P	P	P
<b>Chenoa Lake</b> ( <i>Bell Co.</i> )	37	G							P			G			P				G	G		P				
<b>Clear Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Bath Co.</i> )	40	G							P			G			P				G	G	G	G	G		P	
<b>Cranks Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Harlan Co.</i> )	220	P		P					P		G	P			P					G					P	
<b>Dewey Lake</b>	1,100	G		G	P	P			G			G		G	P					G					G	
<b>Fagan Branch Lake</b> ( <i>Marion Co.</i> )	140	G	G						P			G			P				G	G	G	G	P	G	P	
<b>Fishtrap Lake</b>	1,130	G	P	P	G	G			G			G		P						G		P	P	P	P	
<b>Fishpond Lake</b> ( <i>Letcher Co.</i> )	32	G	P	P					P		G	G			P					G			P	P	P	
<b>Grayson Lake</b>	1,500	G	G	G	G	G			G			G		P	P	P				G	G	P	P	P	P	
<b>Greenbo Lake</b> ( <i>Greenup Co.</i> )	181	G	P						P		G	G			P					G	G	P	P	P	P	
<b>Lake Carnico</b> ( <i>Nicholas Co.</i> )	114	G				P			G			G		P					P	G	P	G			G	
<b>Lake Linville</b> ( <i>Rockcastle Co.</i> )	274	G		G		P			P			G			P				P	G	G				G	
<b>Lake Reba</b> ( <i>Madison Co.</i> )	76	G							P			G			P					G		P	P			
<b>Lake Wilgreen</b> ( <i>Madison Co.</i> )	169	G							P			G			P				G	G		P			P	
<b>Laurel River Lake</b>	5,660	G	G	G		G			G		G	G		G	P		G		P	G	G	P	P	P	G	P
<b>Liberty Reservoir</b> ( <i>Casey Co.</i> )	79	G		P								G							P	G	G	G				
<b>Marion County Lake</b>	22	G										G							G	G						
<b>Martin County Lake</b>	6	G										G								G					P	
<b>Martin County Reservoir</b>	22	G							P			G								G		P			P	
<b>Martins Fork Lake</b> ( <i>Harlan Co.</i> )	334	P	P	P					P			P			P		P			G					P	
<b>McCreary County Reservoir</b>	50	G		P					P			G			P				P	G	P					
<b>Mill Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Powell/Wolfe cos.</i> )	41	G							P		G	G			P				G	G	G	P		P		
<b>Paintsville Lake</b>	1,140	G	P	G		P			P		G	P			P		G			G			P	P	P	
<b>Panbowl Lake</b> ( <i>Breathitt Co.</i> )	31	G							P			G		P	P				P	G	P		P	P	P	
<b>Shanty Hollow Lake</b> ( <i>Warren Co.</i> )	135	G							P			G			P				G	G	P		P		P	
<b>Smokey Valley Lake</b> ( <i>Carter Co.</i> )	36	G							P			G			P					G	P	P			P	
<b>Spurlington Lake</b> ( <i>Taylor Co.</i> )	36	G										G							G	G						
<b>Stanford Reservoir</b> ( <i>Lincoln Co.</i> )	43	G							P		G	G							P	G	G	P				
<b>Wood Creek Lake</b> ( <i>Laurel Co.</i> )	672	G	P	G		P			G		G	G		P					P	G	G	P		P	P	
<b>Yatesville Lake</b>	2,240	G		P					P			G			P				P	G					G	



# BOATING

## INTRODUCTION

This publication provides basic information for most boaters and answers the most commonly asked questions. However, it is not all inclusive. For further information, please contact:

### **Division of Law Enforcement**

Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources  
#1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601  
1-800-858-1549

**For emergencies**, officers may be contacted through the nearest Kentucky State Police post, local law enforcement agency or by dialing **1-800-252-5378**. Or, use marine channel 16 to contact a local marina.

PLEASE NOTE: Kentucky Boaters on the Ohio River may also be subject to the laws of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the U.S. Coast Guard.

## REGISTRATION

(301 KAR 6:001, 6:010)

All mechanically powered vessels used primarily in this state must have a Kentucky registration. Boats are registered at the county clerk's office. Persons may register in the county of their residence or the county of principal use.

Boats registered in other states may be used for up to 60 consecutive days in Kentucky without registering here.

All boats operated in this state must have the registration certificate on board. Boats that are rented from a marina or boat livery must have a lease agreement on board.

### **Display of Number and Decal**

Once boats are assigned a registration number and decals, they must be displayed correctly.

The number assigned, and no other, shall be displayed on the bow, or forward half, of each side of the vessel, read from left to right, and in a position to be distinctly visible. The letters and numbers must be of a plain block design, at least three (3) inches in height, and of a color that will provide maximum contrast to the background (light numbers on a dark hull or vice versa).

There must be a letter size space between letter and number groups:

**CORRECT: KY 1234 AA**

**INCORRECT: KY1234AA**

Registration decals are to be placed within six inches behind (aft) and in line with the registration number. Upon renewal every year, old registration decals are to be removed and the current ones applied.

### **Transfer, Destruction or Abandonment**

When ownership of a currently registered boat changes, it is the responsibility of the purchaser to take the endorsed title to the county clerk and have the boat transferred into the name of the new owner. This procedure must be done upon completion of the transaction.

Whenever a vessel is transferred, the seller shall, within 15 days, give the county clerk notice of the transfer of his interest in the vessel.

Whenever a vessel is destroyed or abandoned, the owner shall, within 15 days, give notice to the county clerk to terminate the registration. The owner shall remove the numbers and decals from the vessel.

## OPERATION

### **AGE RESTRICTIONS**

(KRS 235.010)

A person must be 12 years or older to operate a motorboat (including personal watercraft) over 10 horsepower on Kentucky public waters. A person 12 - 17 years old shall

## BOAT REGISTRATION FEES:

### Class A Vessels

(less than 16' in length) ..... \$10.00

### Class 1 Vessels

(16' to less than 26' in length) ..... \$14.00

### Class 2 Vessels

(26' to less than 40' in length) ..... \$20.00

### Class 3 Vessels

(over 40' in length) ..... \$24.00

### Inboard boats

regardless of size ..... \$24.00

### Boats propelled by an

electric (trolling) motor only ..... \$5.00

**THE ABOVE COSTS DO NOT INCLUDE  
PROPERTY TAXES, CLERKS' FEES,  
TITLING FEES OR ANY OTHER  
APPLICABLE CHARGES.**

not operate a motorboat on public waters unless that person carries a boater education certificate or is accompanied by a person 18 years or older or a person in possession of a boater education certificate card. Equivalent boat operators license or safe boating certificate from another state or country, U.S. Coast Guard, Coast Guard Auxiliary or U.S. Power Squadron will be honored in Kentucky. Boater education testing schedules are available from the KDFWR, call 1-800-858-1549.

## BOAT, MOTOR and LAKE USAGE REGULATIONS

(301 KAR 1:012, 1:015)

Maximum horsepower limits and other boat motor and lake usage regulations apply on many small public fishing lakes.

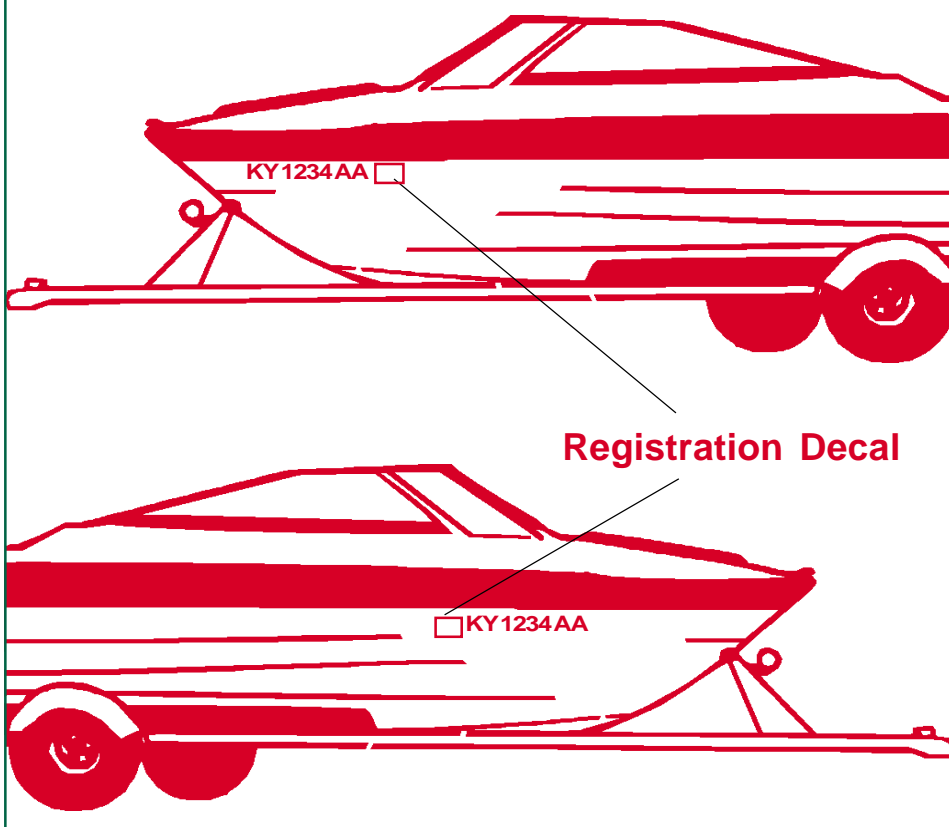
**150 HP:** Boat motors greater than 150 HP are not permitted on Lake Beshear and Lake Malone.

**10 HP at slow speeds which cause no disturbance or interference with fishing are permitted on:** Beaver Creek Lake, Boltz Lake, Bullock Pen Lake, Corinth Lake, Elmer Davis Lake, Herb Smith Lake, Kincaid Lake, Shanty Hollow Lake, Swan Lake.

**Operation of internal combustion motors prohibited:** Ballard WMA lakes, Bert T. Combs Lake, Briggs Lake, Carpenter Lake, Carter Caves State Park Lake (a.k.a. Smoky Valley Lake), Lebanon City Lake (a.k.a. Fagan Branch Lake), Kingfisher lakes, Lincoln Homestead State Park Lake, McNeely Lake, Marion County Lake, Metcalfe County Lake, Mauzy Lake, Peabody WMA's Goose, Island and South lakes, Lake Reba, Spurlington Lake, Swan Lake

WMA lakes (excluding Swan Lake), Washburn Lake.

## Correct Display of Numbers and Decal



**Operation of electric or internal combustion motors prohibited:** Lake Chumley, Dennie Gooch Lake, Kingdom Come, Martin County Lake.

**Idle Speed Only:** Greenbo Lake, Pan Bowl Lake, Wilgreen Lake.

## ON ALL KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES-OWNED/MANAGED LAKES:

- 1) Boaters must use **idle speed** (slowest speed possible to maintain maneuverability of a boat) when passing another boat where fishing is actively going on.
- 2) The centerline of boats on the water cannot exceed 18 feet, 6 inches measured on deck, or from bow to stern, **except on Guist Creek Lake** where the centerline cannot exceed 22 feet. Float boats are an exception and may have decking or pontoons up to 22 feet in length. On **Lake Beshear** and **Lake Malone** only, float boats may have decking and pontoons up to 30 feet. **There is no size restriction on canoes.**
- 3) Houseboats are not permitted.
- 4) Swimming is permitted only in designated areas when a qualified lifeguard is on duty.
- 5) Skin or scuba diving is not permitted.
- 6) Boat motors without underwater exhaust are not permitted.

**Water-skiing** permitted as designated by signs on **Guist Creek Lake** and **Lake Beshear** from 10:00 a.m. to sunset beginning the third Thursday in May (May 18, 2000) through September 30. Similarly, water-skiing is permitted on **Lake Malone** beginning the third Thursday in May through October 31.

## WATER-SKIING

While this section is titled water-skiing, it applies to persons being towed on any device such as knee boards, inner tubes, etc. Water-skiing is only allowed between sunrise and sunset. Additionally, it is illegal to manipulate skis, surfboards, etc. while intoxicated or under the influence of any other substance which

impairs one's driving ability.

Both the operator and skier should be alert to the areas of a lake or river marked as "no ski". Persons shall not ski within 100 feet of a commercial boat dock, a moorage harbor or a swimming area or within 2,000 feet of a lock or dam.

Skiers who ski too close to other boats, docks and obstructions are showing poor judgement. Many of the complaints officers receive while patrolling the water are those about skiers skiing too close.

Persons being towed on **any** device must wear a Type I, II or III PFD. Boats (including personal watercraft) towing skiers must have, in addition to the operator of the boat, an observer 12 years of age or older **or** a wide angle rearview mirror mounted so that the operator can check on the skier but still give full attention to traffic ahead. There must be adequate seating for all riders.

## Boats towing kites and similar airborne devices must:

- Have, in addition to the operator, an observer 12 years or older (mirror will not suffice),
- Stay 500 feet from commercial docks and ramps,
- Limit the tow rope to 150 feet or less,
- Have no more than two persons being towed.

## PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

The term "personal watercraft" (PWC) means a vessel which uses an internal combustion engine to power a jet pump for its primary source of propulsion and is designed to be operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the vessel rather than by a person sitting or standing inside the vessel. In addition to being governed by the same laws that apply to all boats, the following laws apply to personal watercraft:

- Personal watercraft can only be operated between sunrise and sunset.
- Personal watercraft without self-circling capability must have a lanyard-type engine kill switch attached to the

- operator when the craft is underway.
- Operators and passengers must wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device (PFD.)

Because of their small size and low profile, operators of PWCs should exercise defensive driving. These craft are highly responsive and capable of quick turns. In fact, this is part of the fun of their operation. However, this kind of operation is reckless if done in congested areas of boat traffic.

### Small Craft Precautions

Statistics show that approximately half the boat-related fatalities involve boats that are less

than 16' in length. These boats are usually unstable and can tip over, throwing the occupants overboard. Also, these boats can be easily swamped, especially if used on a large body of water where the wind can cause high waves. When using such craft, be aware of the hazards. Wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) is strongly recommended.

### Reckless Operation

The operator of a watercraft is responsible for damage caused by negligent operation. The following actions are considered reckless operation and are therefore against the law:

- weaving through traffic;
- following watercraft that is towing an

## Uniform State Waterway Marking System



#### BOATS KEEP OUT!

Nature of danger may be placed outside crossed diamond, e.g., waterfalls, swim areas, or rapids.



#### DANGER!

Nature of danger may be indicated inside the diamond shape, e.g., rocks, reefs, dams, construction, or snags.



#### CAUTION!

Controlled Area as indicated in circle, e.g. speed limit, no fishing, no anchoring, ski only, slow-no wake, no ski, or no prop boats.



#### INFORMATION

Tells directions, distances, places such as food, repairs, supplies, and other non-regulatory messages.



#### OBSTRUCTION MARKER

Do not pass between shore and buoy.



#### MOORING BUOY

White with reflective blue band. May have white light or reflector.



#### CHANNEL MARKER

Keep buoy on right facing upstream.



#### CHANNEL MARKER

Keep buoy on left facing upstream. Marker may be green or black.

### DIVERS DOWN FLAGS

Boater's exercise caution



Divers Flag

The divers flag is a red flag at least 12" x 12" with a diagonal stripe at least 3" wide. Vessels not involved in the diving operation must stay at least 100 ft. from a diver's flag.

Alpha Flag



(BLUE)

The alpha flag is blue with a silver stripe.



- individual on waterskis, a surfboard or any water sport device;
- jumping the wake of another craft in a way that endangers human life, physical safety or property;
- cutting between a boat and the individual(s) being towed by the boat;
- crossing the path of another boat when visibility is obstructed;
- steering toward an object or individual in the water and turning sharply at close range.

Persons shall not operate a motorboat or personal watercraft within 50 feet of a commercial vessel and its tow which is in operation on a waterway, except if the operator of the commercial vessel has given consent.

When operating in a busy area, reduce speed and allow plenty of room for avoidance maneuvers. Even in areas that are not marked as idle speed, excessive wake can still be dangerous. Operators of larger craft should be aware of the wake their vessels are throwing.

## Idle Speed

Kentucky law defines idle speed as the “slowest speed possible to maintain maneuverability” of a boat. Generally speaking for a properly adjusted boat, this is the speed when a boat is put into gear without advancing the throttle. Wakes can capsize small boats or cause damage to boats moored at marinas and docks. It is extremely important that boat operators be aware of their speed and the resulting wake. Operators are liable for any injuries or damage caused by their boat’s wake.

Boaters may see buoys or signs that say “No Wake”. This means that boats must be at idle speed.

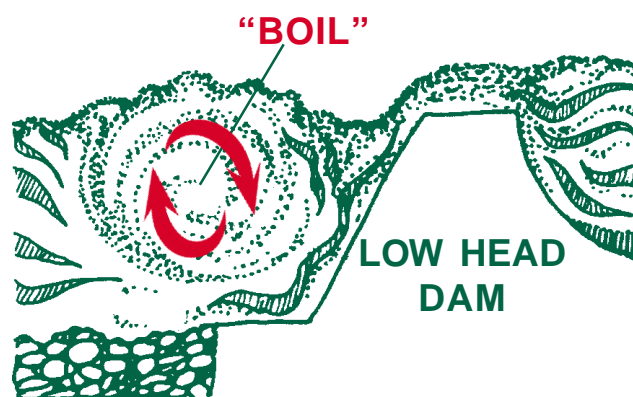
## Locks and Dams

Boaters in Kentucky may encounter lock and dam systems. Generally, these will be on the Green, Ohio and Kentucky Rivers, but a few impoundments have a lock and dam.

Locks are a relatively simple method of raising or lowering boats from one water level to another. If lockage is desired, boaters should

signal the lock operator by using the pull chain on each end of the lock or call on marine channel 13. If the lock is not immediately available, boaters should position their vessels a safe distance from the approach channel to avoid personal injury or damage to their boat from wakes caused by commercial tows entering or leaving the locks. **Never moor a vessel in the lock approach channels.**

Dams associated with the locks can be very dangerous. Boaters should be alert for these structures. Dams are either conventional or “low head” type. Conventional dams are easily recognizable with their spillways and power installations.



## Low Head Dams are Dangerous

Low head dams are usually marked with “keep out” buoys or “danger” signs above and below. Low head dams pose an even greater danger due to the fact that they are not as recognizable, especially when water is flowing over them. It is this flow of water over the dam that creates a “boil” on the lower side. Boaters risk almost certain death if caught in this turbulence.

## Restricted Zones

(KAR 6:030)

Kentucky law prohibits boats from operating within restricted areas as posted above or below navigation, power generating or flood control dams.

No fish is worth risking your life. Be aware of trespassing and danger zones. Wear a PFD when entering any area above or below a dam.

## Buoys

Buoys are the most common type of navigational aid, and they serve the same purpose as traffic signs on the highway. Failure to obey buoys can result in enforcement action, or worse, a loss of property or lives. When boating in unfamiliar waters, slow down and look for any regulatory or channel-marking buoys. Remember, it is possible for these buoys to drift out of position. Kentucky law prohibits from tying up to any buoy except designated mooring buoys.

## Operating Under the Influence (KRS 235.240)

It is against the law to operate a boat or vessel including personal watercraft, manipulate water skis, surfboard or other similar device while intoxicated or under the influence of any other substance which impairs one's driving ability. Any person who operates a vessel on Kentucky waters is considered to have given consent to a test or tests to determine his alcohol concentration or the presence of other drugs. The tests shall be administered at the direction of a law enforcement officer who has probable cause to believe that the operator is intoxicated. An operator refusing the test shall be in violation of the law and subject to the same penalties.

The legal limit for blood alcohol content while operating a vessel on public waters is 0.10. Anyone found guilty of operating a boat, skis, surfboard or similar device while intoxicated or under the influence of any substance which impairs the operator's driving ability shall be subject to fines and possible jail time.

## Drinking in Public and Public Intoxication (KRS 222.202)

Kentucky law specifically prohibits the drinking of alcoholic beverages in public places (this excludes establishments licensed to sell such beverages) and **the waterways of this state are considered public places.**

Further, in a public place, persons who are

BLOOD ALCOHOL CONTENT CHART									
Body Weight in Pounds	Number of Drinks in a Two Hour Period 12 oz. beer=5 oz.wine=1 oz. 80 proof liquor								
100	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
120	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
140	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
160	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
180	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
200	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
220	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
240	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BAC to .05%		<b>Be Careful-</b> Loss of judgment and coordination							
BAC .05% to .09%		<b>Abilities Impaired-</b> Chance of accident increased							
BAC .10% and over		<b>Do Not Operate a Boat-</b> High risk of accident, subject to arrest.							

manifestly under the influence of alcoholic beverages to the extent that they may unreasonably annoy or endanger themselves or others shall be guilty of Alcohol Intoxication and subject to arrest.

## Prohibited Riding

Approximately half of boat related fatalities result from falls overboard. When operating a motorboat above idle speed the operator or passengers shall not ride on an enclosed bow, outside protective railing of a pontoon or houseboat, on a seat which extends six inches above the plane of the gunwales, nor shall they ride on the sides, back, engine cover, back of seat, or any other obviously dangerous position which could lead to falling overboard.

### Riding on Decks or Gunwales

Persons should ride only in the areas designated for such.



# RULES OF THE ROAD

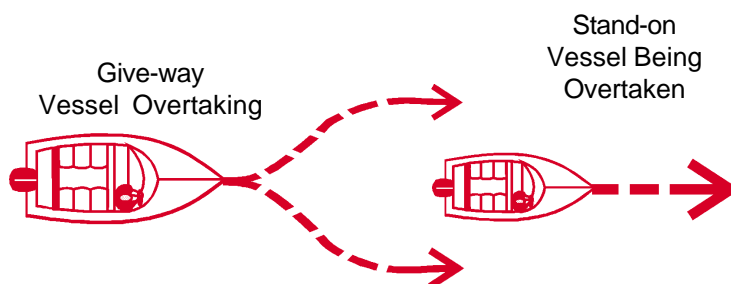
On the water there are no painted lines to mark where boats must go. In order to provide an orderly flow of traffic, there are “rules of the road” that boaters should learn and practice.

Boaters on the water encounter three situations: meeting, crossing and overtaking. The following diagrams should give a clear explanation of who has the right of way (stand-on vessel) and who must give way (give-way vessel). However, in an emergency, all vessels must give way to avoid a collision. At night, a boat’s navigation lights give an indication of right of way (see section titled “Navigation Lights” in this guide).

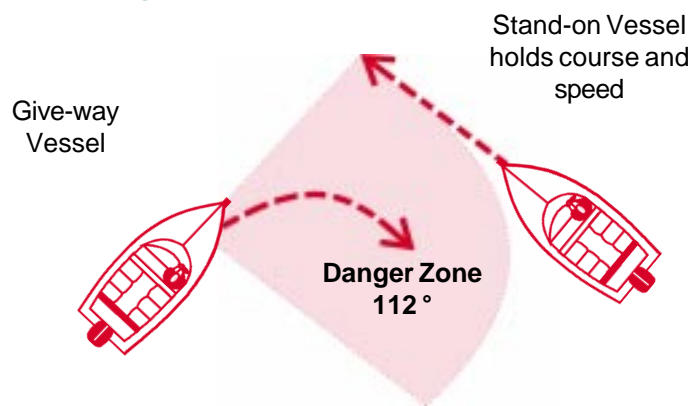
The above rules cover most traffic situations, but a few other situations exist. Sailboats under sail have the right of way except when they are the overtaking vessel. Rowboats and paddle powered boats have the right of way over motorboats. All recreational craft should yield the right of way to large commercial craft (towboats, barges). Such vessels have large blind spots and will be unable to see smaller crafts in front of them.

On small or narrow bodies of water, all traffic should stay to the right of mid-channel and not “cut corners”.

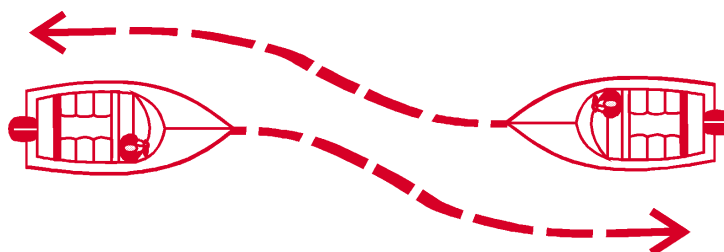
## Overtaking Situation



## Crossing Situation



## Meeting Situation



**Report Fish and Wildlife Violations 1-800-25-ALERT**

# REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

(301 KAR 6:020)

Federal as well as state law requires a Type I, II, or III personal flotation device (PFD) on all boats. Boats over 16 ft., except canoes and kayaks, must also carry one Type IV throwable PFD. Operators and passengers of personal watercraft must wear a PFD.

## Personal Flotation Devices

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources strongly recommends that PFDs be worn while boating, especially by children and nonswimmers. In order for PFDs to be legal, the following requirements must be met:

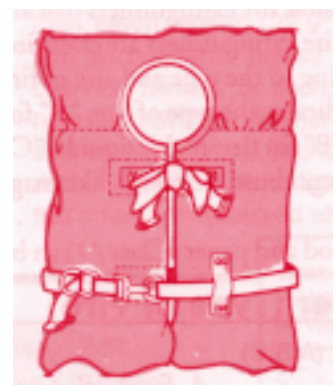
- Coast Guard approved: A label with an approval number will be on the PFD.
- Serviceability: All straps, buckles, zippers, stitching, must be intact and the fabric should not be rotted. Some PFDs contain airtight bags filled with a fibrous material. Squeeze the bags. If air escapes destroy the PFD and replace it with a new one.
- Size: PFDs must fit the people they are intended for. Read the label to determine size and weight restrictions.
- Accessibility: PFDs must be readily available for immediate use by all occupants of a vessel. It is advisable for each person to try on their PFD before departing so that they are familiar with the fastening devices and to assure it is adjusted to the person. PFDs shouldn't be stored in the plastic bags they were sold in. This limits access and can promote rotting of the device.

**LEAVE A NOTE:** When planning a boating trip, leave a note, or float plan, with someone to let them know where you are. Include your departure and expected return times, the waters where you will be boating, a description and/or license number of the vessel and where you can be reached in case of emergency.



### TYPE 1

These devices are designed, when worn properly, to turn a person who is unconscious and face down in the water to a vertical or slightly backward face up position.



### TYPE 2



### TYPE 3

These are special purpose devices which include ski vests, fishing vests and float coats. They are not designed to turn a person face out of the water, but they do have the same buoyancy as the type I and II PFDs and are more comfortable to wear.



### TYPE 4

These PFDs are designed to be thrown to persons in the water who can hold on to them until help arrives. They are not designed to be worn, and could cause drowning if worn on the back.



# Fire Extinguishers

Kentucky law requires that all boats equipped with a petroleum product (gasoline, kerosene, propane, etc.) consuming device (engines, lanterns, stoves, etc.) shall have a hand portable fire extinguisher in serviceable condition and located for immediate use. The best fire protection is well maintained equipment and proper safety habits.

There are fuels other than gasoline that cause fires. Many houseboats use bottled gas (propane) for stoves and other appliances. Also, many fishermen will use a lantern while fishing at night; if tipped over it can cause a fire.

# Backfire Flame Arresters

Internal combustion engines may backfire. To safeguard against fire, all motorboats with enclosed engines and engines originally equipped with a flame arrestor, (except outboards and diesels) must have an approved carburetor backfire flame arrestor system on each carburetor.

# Ventilation

Most fires on a boat are due to ignition of fuel vapors. Gasoline is heavier than air. It can collect in the bilge or engine compartment and any spark can ignite it. Therefore, Kentucky law requires boats to have adequate ventilation of areas where flammable vapors can accumulate. Most boats are equipped with adequate ventila-

tion systems when they come from the factory. Usually, this is a combination of active and passive systems. Active systems use electrical blowers to exhaust flammable vapors from the bilge and other areas. Passive systems are ducts and cowls that ventilate areas when the boat is moving. Almost all inboards will have an electrical blower installed in the engine compartment. Operators should run the blower for several minutes before starting the engine. If the blower is inoperable it should be repaired or replaced immediately. Many boat fires take place after refueling, so care should be taken to avoid spilling fuel in the vessel.

## MINIMUM NUMBER OF B-1 FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

Vessel/Size	Class A	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
No fixed fire extinguisher system	1	1	2	3
Fixed fire extinguisher system installed	0	0	1	2



1. Dry Chemical



2. CO<sub>2</sub> or Halon/Freon



3. Foam

## MARINE FIRE EXTINGUISHER CLASSIFICATION

Coast Guard Classes	UL Listing	Foam (gals.)	CO2 (lbs.)	Dry Chem. (lbs.)	Halon (lbs.)
B-I	5B	1.25	4	2	2.5
B-II	(6B*)	2.5	15	10	10
—	10B	none	10	2.5	5
—	20B	2.5	50	4.5-6	13

\* UL rating 6B is no longer issued.

## Navigation Lights

All vessels when underway between sunset and sunrise must display proper navigation lights. Navigation lights on boats are restricted to the colors of red, green and white.

- Class A and Class 1 motorboats shall display lights as represented in **figure 1**.
- Class 2 and Class 3 motorboats shall display lights as represented in **figure 2**.
- Sailboats of class A and Class 1 shall display lights as represented in **figure 3**.
- Sailboats of Class 2 and Class 3 shall display lights as represented in **figure 4**.

All vessels, when anchored or adrift in normal navigation channels, shall display a steady white light visible 360 degrees. Manually propelled vessels shall carry a white light to display in sufficient time to avoid a collision.

The purpose of navigation lights at night is to show if your boat is in a meeting, crossing or overtaking situation. They will give some indication of the size and speed of vessels. The red and green bow lights are especially helpful in determining right of way in crossing situations. In the diagram below, boat B sees the green bow light of boat A, and has the right of way to continue on course. Boat A sees the red bow light of boat B and must stop or pass astern of boat B.

## Crossing Situation

(Maintain Course and Speed.)

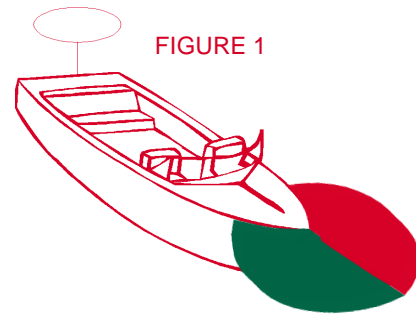
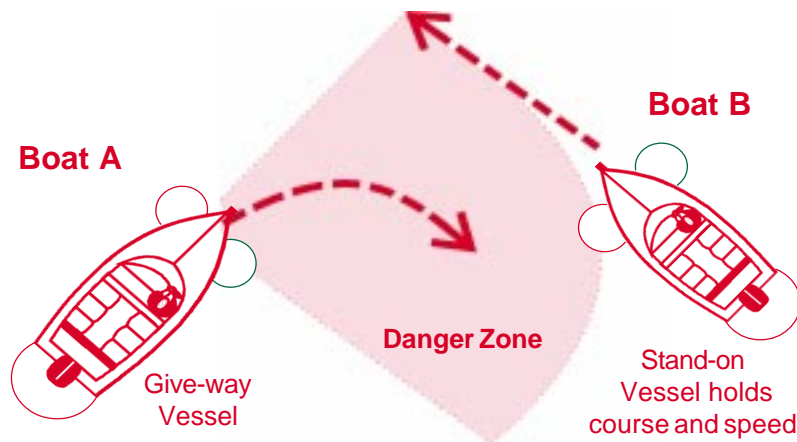


FIGURE 1

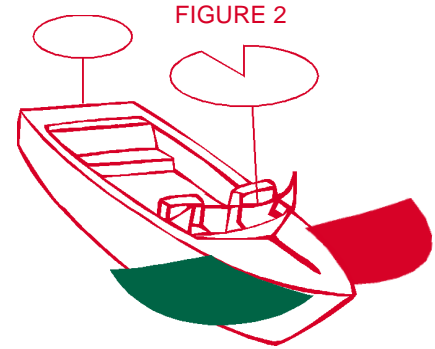


FIGURE 2

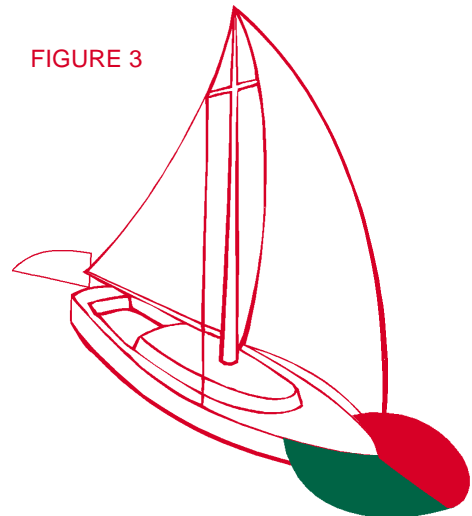


FIGURE 3

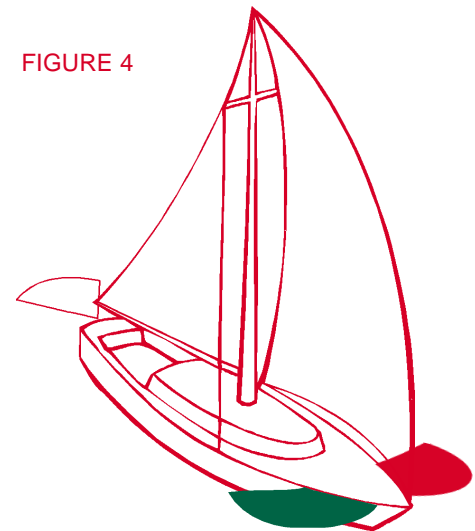


FIGURE 4

## Signaling Devices

Kentucky law states that all boats 16 feet in length or longer must have a hand-, mouth- or power-operated signaling device capable of producing a blast for two seconds or more and audible for one-half mile for class 1 vessels, one mile for class two vessels and one and one-half miles for class three vessels. This does not exempt vessels from any other signaling device as may be required by federal law when operating on navigable waters of this state.

## Maneuvering and Warning Signals

ONE LONG BLAST: Warning signal (coming out of slip)

ONE SHORT BLAST: Pass on my port side (left)

TWO SHORT BLASTS: Pass on my starboard (right)

THREE SHORT BLASTS: Engines in reverse

FIVE OR MORE BLASTS: Danger signal

## Muffling Devices

Kentucky law requires all boats to be equipped with effective exhaust muffling devices. Usually, boats and motors that come direct from the manufacturer are adequately muffled. However, there may be instances of high performance boats that have been modified by the owners that are not in compliance with the law. Additionally, there may be federal and/or local regulations restricting boats with an over-the-transom exhaust system.

## Marine Sanitation Devices

(KRS 235.420)

Motorboats with marine toilets are not allowed on public waters unless the toilet is equipped with a Type I, II or III marine sanitation device (MSD.) Type I and II MSDs chemically treat sewage. Type III MSDs are holding tanks for raw sewage.

Raw sewage shall not be discharged in any public waters. Treated sewage may be discharged from a marine toilet into legal "discharge" waters. Those waters are Barkley and Kentucky lakes, Lake Cumberland, Dale Hollow Lake and any of the major river systems. Type I and II MSDs must be sealed or locked while the vessel is on "no discharge" waters.

## Are You Prepared ?

### Recommended Items:

The safety equipment required by law is only the minimum. Boaters should consider the following list of items which can make for a safer and more pleasant cruise:

**First Aid Kit, Boat Paddle, Radio (Marine Band or CB) or Cell Phone, Tow Line, Owners Manual, Spare Parts and Tools, Bailing Device, or Bilge Pump, Jumper Cables, Emergency Food, Drinking Water and Blanket.**

Of course, the type of boat and body of water will dictate how much extra equipment will be needed. By anticipating problems, boaters will be prepared before any difficulties occur.

# ACCIDENTS

(301 KAR 6:030, KRS 235.250)

## Reporting Requirements

If any of the following conditions occur as the result of a boating accident, collision, etc., a Boating Accident Report must be made:

- the death or disappearance of a person;
- injury to a person which requires medical attention or incapacitates that person for 24 hours or more;
- loss or damage to property (including the vessel) in an amount of \$100 or more.

The operator of a vessel is required to complete the report. If the operator is not capable of filing the report and is not the owner of the vessel, then the owner shall be required to fill out a boating accident report.

**Note 1:** Even if a Law Enforcement Officer fills out a boating accident report, this does not exempt the operator from filing a report.

**Note 2:** The reports filed by operators of vessels are confidential and are not available as public record (KRS 235.250). However, reports made by officers are available for review.

Accidents involving death or serious injury must be submitted to the Division of Law Enforcement within 48 hours. All others must be submitted within five days.

A boating accident report form is included in this guide. Additional forms are available from wildlife and boating law enforcement officers or by writing to Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Division of Law Enforcement, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601, or by calling 1-800-858-1549.

## Rendering Aid

An operator of a vessel involved in a boating accident shall render aid to other persons and vessels as long as it doesn't endanger his crew, passengers or vessel. Also, the operator of any vessel involved in an accident shall give his name, address, and identification of his vessel, in writing, to any person that is injured or to the owner of any property that is damaged.

## First Aid

This section includes suggestions that may save a life. First, boats should be equipped with a first aid kit. This kit should be able to provide treatment for burns, insect bites, cuts and abrasions.

Second, boaters should take a first aid course so they know how to treat victims with sprains, broken bones and shock.

Third, boaters should know how to perform Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) in case they encounter victims of near drowning, heart attack or trauma from boating accidents. In many cases, emergency medical help is further away on the water than on land. Interested persons should contact their local chapter of the American Red Cross for information on first aid and CPR training.

## Hypothermia

Four elements cause hypothermia -- cold, moisture, wind and exhaustion. Symptoms of hypothermia are uncontrollable shivering, slurred speech, stumbling, blue skin, decreased heart and breathing rate, weak pulse and unconsciousness.

All hypothermia symptoms demand immediate attention. As soon as possible, a victim of hypothermia should be brought out of the weather. Wet clothing should be replaced with

dry clothing. If the victim shows mild symptoms, get them near a fire or other heat source or put them in a warm sleeping bag. For victims with advanced symptoms of hypothermia, seek immediate medical attention. Never give alcohol to the victim.

The best cure for hypothermia is prevention. Monitor weather reports when you plan to be in the outdoors. Dress in layers and always have foul-weather gear handy.

# OTHER SITUATIONS

## Skin and SCUBA Diving

(301 KAR 1:040, 6:030)

Skin or SCUBA diving is prohibited in all lakes owned by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, except during emergencies and during salvage operations when the diver has written permission from the regional director or local wildlife and boating law enforcement officer assigned to the specific body of water in which the diving is to take place.

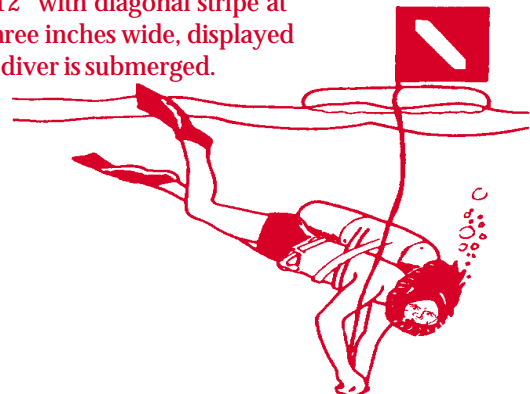
Persons diving or submerging with the aid of a mechanical breathing apparatus in an area where boats might be, are required by law to display the diver's flag.

This flag should be put on a buoy, boat or other floating platform so that boaters will

**Alpha Flag** -- Blue with silver stripe, displayed on vessel with restricted mobility because of diving operation.



**Diver's Flag** -- Red flag at least 12" x 12" with diagonal stripe at least three inches wide, displayed where diver is submerged.





Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources Division of Law Enforcement #1 Game Farm Road Frankfort, Kentucky 40601	<b>KENTUCKY BOATING ACCIDENT REPORT</b>	Name and address of person making report Name _____ Address _____
The operator of every vessel is required by Kentucky statutes to file with the Division of Law Enforcement a written report whenever an accident results in loss of life or disappearance from a vessel; an injury which requires medical treatment beyond first aid; or property damage in excess of \$100 or complete loss of the vessel. Reports in death and injury cases must be submitted within 48 hours. Reports in other cases must be submitted within 5 days. MAIL REPORT TO: Department of Fish & Wildlife, Division of Law Enforcement, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, KY 40601		
<b>COMPLETE ALL BLOCKS (indicate those not applicable by "NA")</b>		
NAME AND ADDRESS OF OPERATOR	AGE OF OPERATOR  DATE OF BIRTH	OPERATOR'S EXPERIENCE This type of boat _____ Other Boat Operating Exp. _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Under 20 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Under 20 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> 20 to 100 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> 20 to 100 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> 100 to 500 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> 100 to 500 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Over 500 Hours <input type="checkbox"/> Over 500 Hours
OPERATOR TELEPHONE NUMBER	OWNER TELEPHONE NUMBER	
NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER	RENTED BOAT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BOARD  FORMAL INSTRUCTION IN BOATING SAFETY? <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Power Squadrons <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Auxiliary <input type="checkbox"/> American Red Cross <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<b>VESSEL NO. 1 (this vessel)</b>		
BOAT REGISTR. NO.	BOAT NAME	BOAT MAKE
BOAT MODEL	MFR. HULL IDENTIFICATION NO.	
TYPE OF BOAT <input type="checkbox"/> Open Motorboat <input type="checkbox"/> Cabin Motorboat <input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary Sail <input type="checkbox"/> Sail (only) <input type="checkbox"/> Rowboat <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	HULL MATERIAL <input type="checkbox"/> Wood <input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum <input type="checkbox"/> Steel <input type="checkbox"/> Fiberglass <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber/vinyl <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	ENGINE <input type="checkbox"/> Outboard <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard gasoline <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard-outdrive <input type="checkbox"/> Jet <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
PROPULSION <input type="checkbox"/> No. of engines _____ horsepower (total) _____ Type of fuel _____		CONSTRUCTION Length _____ Year built (boat) _____
Has boat had a Safety Examination <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO For current year? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO YEAR _____ Indicate whether <input type="checkbox"/> USCG Auxiliary courtesy Marine Exam. <input type="checkbox"/> State/local examination <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
<b>ACCIDENT DATA</b>		
DATE OF ACCIDENT	TIME _____ am _____ pm	NAME OF BODY OF WATER
LOCATION (Give location precisely)		Lat: _____ Long: _____
STATE	NEAREST CITY/TOWN	COUNTY
WEATHER <input type="checkbox"/> Clear <input type="checkbox"/> Rain <input type="checkbox"/> Cloudy <input type="checkbox"/> Snow <input type="checkbox"/> Fog <input type="checkbox"/> Hazy	WATER CONDITIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Calm (waves less than 6") <input type="checkbox"/> Choppy (waves 6" to 2') <input type="checkbox"/> Rough (waves 2' to 6") <input type="checkbox"/> Very Rough (greater than 6") <input type="checkbox"/> Strong Current	TEMPERATURE (Estimate) Air _____ °F Water _____ °F
WIND <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Light (0-6 mph) <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate (7-14 mph) <input type="checkbox"/> Strong (15-25 mph) <input type="checkbox"/> Storm (Over 25 mph)	VISIBILITY Day _____ Night _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>	
OPERATION AT THE TIME OF ACCIDENT (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Activity <input type="checkbox"/> Cruising <input type="checkbox"/> Maneuvering <input type="checkbox"/> Approaching Dock <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving Dock <input type="checkbox"/> Water Skiing <input type="checkbox"/> Racing <input type="checkbox"/> Towing <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	TYPE OF ACCIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> Drifting <input type="checkbox"/> At Anchor <input type="checkbox"/> Tied to Dock <input type="checkbox"/> Fueling <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting <input type="checkbox"/> Skin Diving/ Swimming <input type="checkbox"/> Being Towed <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____	WHAT IN YOUR OPINION CONTRIBUTED TO THE ACCIDENT? (Check all applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> Grounding <input type="checkbox"/> Collision with Fixed Object <input type="checkbox"/> Capsizing <input type="checkbox"/> Collision with Floating Object <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding <input type="checkbox"/> Falls Overboard <input type="checkbox"/> Sinking <input type="checkbox"/> Falls in Boat <input type="checkbox"/> Fire or Explosion (Fuel) <input type="checkbox"/> Fire or Explosion (Other than Fuel) <input type="checkbox"/> Hit By Boat or Propeller <input type="checkbox"/> Fallen Skier <input type="checkbox"/> Collision with Vessel <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (PFD'S) Was the boat adequately equipped with COAST GUARD APPROVED FLOTATION DEVICES? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Were they accessible? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Were they serviceable? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Were they used by survivors? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What Type? <input type="checkbox"/> I <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> V (specify) _____  Were PFD's properly Used? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Adjusted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Sized? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Include any comments on PFD's under ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION on other side of form		PROPERTY DAMAGE Estimated amount This Boat \$ _____ Other Boat \$ _____  DESCRIBE PROPERTY DAMAGE  NAME AND ADDRESS OF OWNER OF DAMAGED PROPERTY
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS Were they used? (If yes, list Type(s) and number used.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> NA Types: _____		

If more than 3 fatalities and/or injuries, attach additional form(s).

#### DECEASED

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	WAS VICTIM? <input type="checkbox"/> Swimmer <input type="checkbox"/> Non Swimmer	DEATH CAUSED BY <input type="checkbox"/> Drowning <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPEARANCE	WAS PFD WORN? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What Type?
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	WAS VICTIM? <input type="checkbox"/> Swimmer <input type="checkbox"/> Non Swimmer	DEATH CAUSED BY <input type="checkbox"/> Drowning <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPEARANCE	WAS PFD WORN? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What Type?
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	WAS VICTIM? <input type="checkbox"/> Swimmer <input type="checkbox"/> Non Swimmer	DEATH CAUSED BY <input type="checkbox"/> Drowning <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> DISAPPEARANCE	WAS PFD WORN? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What Type?

#### INJURED

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	NATURE OF INJURY	MEDICAL TREATMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	NATURE OF INJURY	MEDICAL TREATMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
NAME	ADDRESS	DATE OF BIRTH	NATURE OF INJURY	MEDICAL TREATMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

#### ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION

DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED (Sequence of events. Include Failure of Equipment. If diagram is needed attach separately. Continue on additional sheets if necessary. Include any information regarding the involvement of alcohol and/or drugs in causing or contributing to the accident. Include any descriptive information about the use of PFD's.)

#### VESSEL NO. 2 (if more than 2 vessels attach additional form(s)).

Name of Operator	Address	Boat Number
Telephone Number		Boat Name
Name of Owner	Address	

#### WITNESSES

Name	Address	Telephone Number
Name	Address	Telephone Number
Name	Address	Telephone Number

#### PERSON COMPLETING REPORT

SIGNATURE	Address	Telephone Number
QUALIFICATION (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Operator <input type="checkbox"/> Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Investigator <input type="checkbox"/> Other		Date Submitted

(do not use)—FOR REPORTING AUTHORITY REVIEW—(use agency date stamp)

Causes based on (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> This report <input type="checkbox"/> Investigation and this report <input type="checkbox"/> Investigation <input type="checkbox"/> Could not be determined	Name of Reviewing Office	Date Received
Primary Cause of Accident	Secondary Cause of Accident	Reviewed by

readily see it. Approaching boats must stay outside of a 100 foot radius of the flag. Divers must surface within a 50 foot radius unless there is an emergency.

Divers shall not dive in established traffic lanes nor interfere with anyone fishing unless emergency operations are in progress.

## Swimming

Kentucky law specifically prohibits swimming at any boat launching ramp. Swim in marked and supervised areas. If you are a nonswimmer or a poor swimmer, wear a PFD. Remember, PFDs are not just for boaters.

Refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages when swimming. Alcohol greatly reduces a person's reflexes and strength when in the water. For persons who have had alcoholic beverages a PFD is the difference between life and death.

Persons who wish to swim a long distance should swim parallel to the shore instead of across a river or lake. Boaters don't normally expect to see swimmers in the middle of a lake or river and may run over them.

## Inflatables

Air mattresses, inner tubes and other similar devices are generally used as recreational items by persons swimming or sunbathing. Use of these items should be restricted to designated or generally recognized swimming areas and not be used in areas of boat traffic. Nonswimmers or poor swimmers should not depend on these devices to save their life. These items can be punctured and lose their buoyancy - wear a PFD!

## Fatigue

Boaters should be aware of the factors that induce fatigue while on the water. The wind, sun, engine noise and constant motion of the boat can greatly reduce a person's reaction time.

## Zebra Mussels

(301 KAR 1:122)

It is illegal to import or possess zebra mussels in Kentucky. Zebra mussels have infested the Great Lakes area and are present in the Ken-

tucky and Ohio Rivers and Kentucky, Barkley, Taylorsville and Green River lakes. Zebra mussels have damaged and destroyed boat motors and clogged cooling systems, water intakes, bilge pumps and boat parts. Zebra mussels reproduce rapidly and compete with young fish and pose a serious problem to native freshwater mussels.

Learn to identify zebra mussels. They are usually fingernail size but can grow to two inches in length. They have an elongated, pointed shell with a zebra-like pattern of stripes in colors ranging from brown to yellow. Inspect your boat, motor, live wells and boat trailer for zebra mussels after exiting the water. Scrape off any mussels found. Flush boat engines with uncontaminated water to remove any mussels not found. Since zebra mussel larva are too small to be detected, wash boat parts that contact the water with hot water or a hot saltwater solution. Dry your boat trailer for two to four days in the sun before entering another waterway. Zebra mussels can live up to ten days out of water, but they cannot tolerate heat.



## Littering

(KRS 433.757)

The operator of any motorboat or vessel is responsible for any litter thrown into the water. Litter is not only unsightly, but can be dangerous to humans and animals. For example, fishing line discarded into the water can be hazardous to wildlife and to a boat's lower unit. Animals can be ensnared in the line and die. Fishing line caught on a prop shaft can cause seal leaks and lower unit failure.

Find more hunting and fishing  
information at  
[www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/  
kdfwr.htm](http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/fw/kdfwr.htm).

